MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

27 NOVEMBER 1981

Fes Summit

Conference Postponement -- Rabat radio broadcast a statement by Moroccan King Hassan II in which he announced the postponement of the Arab summit conference until a later date, which is to be determined by the Arab foreign ministers. Speaking after the first closed session of the conference on 25 November, King Hassan said that during the 4-hour session the conference had discussed and unanimously approved recommendations submitted on Lebanon, but had decided to postpone its "second round" because "the issues are extremely big and critical" and have important repercussions and consequences. Asserting that by postponing the summit the Arabs have proved that they are not excitable or emotional, Hassan stressed the importance of achieving a "sound view" and measures that can be implemented. Citing conference sources, KUNA reported that the decision to postpone the conference was made after it had become clear that inter-Arab divisions would be exacerbated if the conference debated Saudi Crown Prince Fahd's peace plan. Noting that the absence of the Iraqi, Syrian and Libyan leaders also led to the postponement, KUNA said the Arab foreign ministers are likely to resume discussions on the Saudi peace plan next month and, if agreement is reached, the second round of the summit will be held in Morocco early in 1982.

Comment, Reaction -- Riyadh radio broadcast a statement by an official source in the Saudi delegation denying that the summit was postponed because of disagreement over the Saudi peace plan. According to the source, it was postponed because those attending decided that further "research and contacts" on some agenda items were required. The source added that during the meetings it had become clear that while the majority fully support the Saudi peace plan, some had questions and reservations about specific points. Saudi Arabia had therefore tried to withdraw the plan from consideration, but the other Arab leaders had insisted on keeping it on the agenda.

Asserting that Saudi Arabia appears to have "lost heavily" from the summit postponement, AFP highlighted the importance of Syria's opposition to the Saudi plan. It cited several Arab delegations as saying that Syria's failure to support the plan stemmed less from disagreement with the plan itself than from "lack of enthusiasm" about Saudi Arabia's new regional ambitions.

However, in an interview with 'UKAZ, reported by Riyadh radio on 25 November, Saudi Information Minister Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani denied that his country harbors new ambitions, asserting that in submitting its peace plan Saudi Arabia did not mean to claim absolute leadership of the Arab nation or seek hegemony, but rather sought to secure the safety and interests of the Arabs.

The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio broadcast a commentary on the summit postponement stressing that the United States and Israel were to blame for Arab opposition to the Saudi peace plan because, by failing to support the plan, they had made it impossible for the Saudis to convince other Arabs to view the plan positively. Their rejection strengthened those who view the acceptance of the Saudi plan as a "leap into empty space," the commentary said.

In a 26 November commentary reported by Damascus radio, TISHRIN said that while the Arab situation is unsatisfactory, this does not constitute grounds for defeatism. Without alluding directly to the Saudi peace plan or the summit postponement, TISHRIN said that conflict in the Arab world is nothing new. It noted that such conflict arose when the late Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat tried to convince the Arabs to rely on the United States to achieve Middle East peace. The results of As-Sadat's "experiment," TISHRIN asserted, show that the new U.S.-Israeli "onslaught" should not be met by retreat.

INA reported that Iraqi delegation leader 'Izzat Ibrahim, vice chairman of Iraq's Revolution Command Council, expressed support for the postponement of the summit, asserting that it would give heads of state a better chance to study the Saudi plan and might enable them to personally attend the next session. INA also reported that Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi said, if the conference had continued its work and dealt superficially with grave topics, it would have faced either a split or useless, superficial unity and agreement.

According to JANA, a Libyan official told a student group that the "failure" of the Fes summit was a victory for "sincere revolutionary forces," for the Al-Fatih revolution and for the Arab cause.

According to Amman radio, AR-RA'Y deplored the postponement, asserting that Arab differences had aborted the conference and that an Arab minority had sought to sabotage it. The Jordanian newspaper said the gravity of the topics under dicussion should have been an incentive not to postpone the conference but to adopt a unified stand. According to WAM, UAE newspapers expressed regret over the postponement. Meanwhile, WAKH reported that several Kuwaiti papers deplored the absence of some Arab leaders from the conference.

Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali asserted that the summit "collapse" demonstrated that without Egypt the Arab world can make no useful contribution to Middle East peace, AFP reported. Jerusalem radio's English service quoted a senior Israeli official as stating that the summit failure was a real setback for Saudi Arabia and a measure of Saudi Arabia's status and political "clout" in the Arab world, but that it is still too early to say whether Prince Fahd's plan is dead.

Tehran radio broadcast an Iranian Foreign Ministry statement that called the postponement a "great victory" for the Islamic community.

Resolution on Lebanon -- SPA broadcast the text of the draft resolution on Lebanon, which was unanimously approved by the summit conference during its closed session. The resolution calls for a comprehensive Arab strategy to prevent and confront Israeli "aggression," particularly against southern Lebanon. It says Arab states should apply political, diplomatic and economic pressures on states that support Israel to make it respect Lebanon's territorial integrity. They should also make the Security Council apply UN resolutions on Lebanon so as to secure full Israeli withdrawal to Lebanon's borders and so that southern Lebanon can return to the authority of the Lebanese state. All Arab states should "shoulder the burdens" of this strategy, the document stipulates. It also calls for the establishment of a minicouncil, comprising representatives of all the states participating in the Fes summit, to draft a plan to implement this strategy under the auspices of Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi.

Israel

Shamir U.S. Visit -- Jerusalem radio reported on 26 November that Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir will visit the United States to explain Israel's position on European participation in the Sinai Multinational Force and Observers (MFO). The radio later quoted him as stating that there is "no room for Israeli flexibility" regarding EEC participation. MA'ARIV said the Americans intend to pressure Israel into agreeing to European participation, noting that Prime Minister Menahem Begin said he will recommend that the Cabinet reject the participation of units from France, Italy, Britain and the Netherlands. According to another Jerusalem radio report, Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan stated on behalf of the prime minister that if the MFO is not set up, Israel will not withdraw from Sinai in accordance with the Camp David agreements.

Begin Hospitalized -- Prime Minister Begin was hospitalized after a fall in which he broke his thigh bone, AFP reported. Jerusalem radio said he will be hospitalized for 2 weeks but will be able to work from his bed.

Begin on Reactor, Missiles -- Jerusalem radio reported that in a 25 November French television interview, Prime Minister Begin called on France not to help rebuild Iraq's nuclear reactor. Begin also said that if U.S. envoy Philip Habib failed to solve the problem of the Syrian missiles in the Al-Biqa' Valley of Lebanon, Israel "would do what was needed."

Egypt

Release of Detainees -- Cairo radio reported on 25 November that the socialist public prosecutor had decided to release 31 detainees, including prominent journalist Muhammad Hasanayn Haykal and Wafd Party leader Muhammad Fu'ad Siraj ad-Din. According to MENA, President Husni Mubarak later received Haykal, who said afterwards that he strongly supports the new president and wishes him success. Every nationalist should support Mubarak in "opening this new page," Haykal added. MENA also noted that First Deputy Prime Minister Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din said the released men could resume political activity. Meanwhile, Cairo radio reported that both the Socialist Labor Party and the Socialist Liberal Party praised the release of the detainees.

22 Charged -- MENA reported that the socialist public prosecutor referred Muhammad 'Abd as-Salam az-Zayyat and 21 others to the state security prosecutor on a charge of communicating with a foreign power.

PDRY-YAR

Citing a Yemeni Democratic National Front (DNF) source, Damascus radio reported that during his visit to Kuwait, PDRY Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad signed a cease-fire agreement with YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih on behalf of the DNF.

Iranian Claims Against U.S.

Citing the head of the Central Bank, PARS reported that Iran has submitted a $12-billion claim against the United States at the international court of arbitration set up under the Algiers declaration. He said the claim was prepared by the Defense Ministry and was based on documents showing the sale of weapons to ths shah's regime. He added that other ministries are also preparing claims. The bank chief accused the United States of violating the agreements set forth in the Algiers declaration, including blocking the Iranian account in Washington that funded the Iranian Interests Section in the Algerian Embassy, delaying the transfer of Iranian money, and sabotaging the transfer of munitions and equipment bought by the former Iranian regime.

Pakistan

An official government statement reported by Karachi radio denied that President Ziaul Haq had told Turkish journalists that Pakistan intends to build an atomic bomb or has the capacity to do so.

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REPORTAGE ON FES ARAB SUMMIT CONFERENCE

Ministers Draft Resolutions

LD251606 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1825 GMT 24 Nov 81

[Text] Rabat, 24 Nov (MAP) -- The following is a list of the draft resolutions endorsed by the ministerial council for submission to the Arab summit conference:

1. The question of southern Lebanon.
2. The Arab-Israeli conflict.
3. The bolstering of resistance in the occupied Arab lands.
4. The declaration of the eight principles.
5. The digging up of a canal linking the Dead Sea with the Mediterranean.
6. Threats to Al-Aqsa Mosque.
7. Supply of water to Israel from the Nile.
8. American-Israeli strategic alliance.
9. Participation in the Sinai multinational force -- two resolutions.
10. American nuclear reactors from the United States to Israel.
11. International conflict in the Gulf area.
12. Arab-European dialogue.
13. Arab-African cooperation.
14. The 12-member Arab committee for Arab-African cooperation.
15. African liberation movements.
16. Granting OAU observer status.
17. Ministerial delegations visits to foreign countries.
18. Development contracts.
19. Arabization in Somalia.
20. Floods in Somalia.
21. Building an Arab League headquarters.
22. Information on Iraq.

Hassan Announces Postponement

LD252032 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2005 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Rabat radio correspondent's dispatch from Fes on 29 November]

[Text] Following the opening session, the Arab summit conference held a closed session which lasted for about 4 hours.

After the meeting, King Hassan II made a statement to the press about the meeting and the resolutions adopted by the Arab leaders. He said:

[Begin recording] As you know, originally the idea was to hold two conferences: One on Lebanon and the other on the remaining Arab issues.

During the first session, we discussed the Lebanese question. The conference unanimously approved the recommendations referred to it on the matter. The secretary general [of the Arab League] has undertaken to pursue the implementation and study of these recommendations. All the Arab countries without exception have decided to support Lebanon and the southern border areas. They have also decided to support the occupied territory and its people.

The conference has been postponed until some later date which will be determined by the foreign ministers.

The second round of the conference will be held in Morocco when the committee of the Arab foreign ministers fixes a date for that.

One might wonder: Why this postponement? The answer is that the issues are extremely big and critical and have their own repercussions, and form a chain all of whose links are important; naturally, their consequences are even more important.

The important thing is to come out with a sound view and measures that can be implemented. I believe that by this postponement, the Arabs have once more proved that they do not get excited, nor do they resort to emotion and fervor, but that they address themselves to views. As the Arab saying goes: Views are more important than the bravery of the courageous; views come first and courage second. God's peace be with you. [end recording]

Habib Chatti Address

LD251800 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1455 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Speech by Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization, to the Arab summit conference in Fes -- live]

[Excerpts] The truth everybody realizes today and which we repeated in our Islamic conferences is the fact that the Zionist enemy is carrying out a grave plan aimed at freezing the Palestinian issue and obstructing any basis for a just solution to it, while continuing to entrench its occupation of the land, and practicing a policy of Judaization and repression. This happens in the context of what is called the Camp David agreements, which are used by the enemy as an umbrella in order to persist in its defiance of the Arab nation and in defiance of the international community whose resolutions it disregards without being deterred.

There is no doubt left to anyone with good intentions that these agreements have gravely impeded peace in the region and laid the established rights of the Palestinian people open to question, in addition to the explosive situation created by the obdurate practices of the Zionist entity inside and outside the occupied land.

Faced with this vicious maneuver [Camp David], we, in our organization, have many times stressed the need to find ways really likely to bring our cause out of stagnation. We also noted that hundreds of resolutions were not carried out and remain in abeyance. Our nation cannot bear any longer seeing more of such resolutions issued because so far they have failed to salvage an inch of the occupied Palesinian territories, failed to restore to the struggling Palestinian people their usurped rights and did not prevent Israel from perpetrating further open aggressions against the Arab nation.

Our Arab and Islamic nation today looks forward to a concentrated action that would put the issue on a [word indistinct] course leading to real tangible results which our peoples want.

With regard to the United States, the ally of Israel, without the unconditional political, military and financial support for the Zionist entity, the situation would not have ended up as dangerous as it is today. Because of the arrogance of this entity and its repeated aggression against the Arab nation, the United States will find itself isolated, in a corner with Israel, outside the human community, then it will not be able to escape from reevaluating the situation in the region in a way that accords with its interests, and with the requirements of world peace.

The widespread support our cause is enjoying today did not come spontaneously. It came as a direct result of the struggle and resistance of the valiant Palestinian people, and the fact that the Arab and Islamic states stood by their side, especially the confrontation states. This made the world realize the will of this people to live in dignity and honor on the land of its ancestors.

We believe that such a situation can give our cause the opportunity for a serious move based on a studied and clear plan that secures the consensus of honorable leaders of the Arab nation and the support of all the Islamic nation, so that our cause finds its way to a settlement that gives justice to the struggling people of Palestine under the leadership of the strong Palestine Liberation Organization, its legitimate and sole representative, and enables this people to recover their usurped land and set up their own independent state and guarantees the return of holy Jerusalem to Arab and Islamic sovereignty.

Alongside the Arab nation, the Islamic world and over a billion Muslims are looking forward with hope to seeing the day when God almighty confers his blessing on the place where our great prophet ascended to heaven, the first of the two Muslim qiblas [referring to the Al-Aqsa mosque], the blessing of liberation from the yoke of the hateful Zionist occupation.

Chedli Klibi Address

LD251836 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1511 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Speech by the Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi at the Arab summit conference in Fes -- live]

[Excerpts] Your Majesties, Highnesses and Excellencies; this is the fourth time in succession in which the Arab summit has met at its annual date and in regular manner; thus the summit conference has become a firm establishment at the forefront of all other groupings. Perhaps it is the first time in the history of the summit in which international public opinion is near-unanimous, in a direct or indirect form, in recognizing the Palestinian people's rights, particularly their right to their own homeland and independent state under the leadership of its venerable organization. Nevertheless, difficulties are increasing daily: Our struggle may have to continue for an unknown duration. But we must continue to assume the burdens of this struggle with all our strength and resolve. The victories gained by the PLO in all spheres and international arenas are an indication that world conscience is responding to our fateful issue and siding with the Palestinian people who are struggling for principles which are cherished by all nations and states -- the principles of freedom, dignity and equality. The raising of the status of diplomatic representation of the PLO by the USSR, in addition to the official recognition of the organization by a considerable number of states and international organizations, are significant signs of the positive change in the attitude of the international community vis-a-vis the Palestinian question and the Arab-Israeli conflict in general.

The significant changes in the attiudes of the international community vis-a-vis our Arab issues have not so far been followed up by action, which can open the way to the realization of the aims for which we are struggling, at the forefront of which is the regaining by the Palestinian people of their legitimate rights. There are obstacles and negative attitudes still obstructing, delaying, or deflecting solutions. Following the failure of the Camp David agreement to achieve peace and the subsequent development of the international attitude, today we see Israel changing its strategy by exploiting the circumstances of the renewed cold war between Washington and Moscow to declare together with the United States the establishment of a strategic alliance that aims at the consolidation of Israel's aggressive capabilities and at the continuation of Israel's usurpation of Arab rights.

The Arab reply to this provocation is that which you reaffirmed in your resolution: to give priority to the unification of Arab ranks, to speedily overcome all differences which weaken our capabilities and waste our energies, and to take measures to protect our states. Also, to strengthen commitment to the policy of nonalignment in order to make the region free from military alliances and to enable it to steer away from becoming an arena where the interests of the superpowers clash at the expense of our own interests and pan-Arab priorities. Differences in views is a natural result of the sincere efforts becoming real differences which would thus hinder the march of joint action. In the light of this fact, which you have reaffirmed many times and in accordance with your instructions at the Amman conference, a committee was formed under the supervision of His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and His Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid which has prepared a plan which we hope to submit to you. We hope this conference will provide an opportunity for fraternal dialogue and friendly meetings. We believe that this constitutes the right path for dealing with many problems. Perhaps you too will hold the view that it is inevitable to set up a permanent body to immediately use its fraternal efforts to contain and deal with any differences that many arise in the light of your decisions.

Your Majesty, Chairman of the Conference; the situation in Lebanon, particularly in southern Lebanon, still constitutes a dangerous hotbed. Israel still insists on keeping the Lebanese wound wide open in the body of the Arab nation, and a point of tension that it can use to drain away the Arab energy and deepen the differences in the Lebanese arena. Despite the fact that the Arab Followup Committee, under the supervision of His Excellency President Ilyas Sarkis has helped to lessen the tension in the Lebanese capital and in some Lebanese areas, the situation in southern Lebanon is still fraught with grave dangers, a matter which calls upon us to give this issue much attention and to help the Lebanese state to overcome this crisis. Healing the Lebanese wound is for us a pledge.

Your Majesty, Chairman of the Conference; the war between Iraq and Iran still gives us much pain. Two states are engaged in this war, one is a member of our Arab family, while we are linked with the people of the other by bonds of religion and neighborliness. It is regrettable that efforts which have been made for more than 1 year have not led to a solution which can stop the flow of blood and preserve the Arab nation's rights. The values we believe in, and our conscience, as Arabs and Muslims, dictate that we should not remain indifferent and should make all possible efforts to provide a just solution ensuring Arab rights and establishing relations between the Arab states and Iran based on goodneighborliness, mutual support and effective solidarity.

Your Majesty, Chairman of the Conference; the North-South dialogue, the Euro-Arab dialogue and all similar initiatives reaffirm the world's need for a new international economic base and cooperation between industrial and developing states. But these initiatives, conferences and projects will not realize their objective unless thoughts of exploitation are removed from the minds of the industrial states.

Your Majesties, Highnesses and Excellencies; the Arab League was founded in response to deep pan-Arab aspirations and as a result of our states' desire to meet, cooperate and forge an alliance to unify our efforts and achieve our common destiny. Following the serious events to which our Arab nation has recently been subjected, our states became convinced since the Baghdad summit of the need to develop the Arab League Charter. It is hoped that our states will soon have the opportunity soon to debate and approve a plan prepared by a committee of governmental experts.

Your Majesties, Highnesses and Excellencies; as I have previously pointed out, the international community is convinced that the methods employed in the Camp David agreement do not lead to the establishment of peace in the Arab east or the ending of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Perhaps this international conviction has not so far been coupled with positive steps.

The Arab states have so far been compelled to adopt a rejectionist attitude due to the fact that any internationally proposed solution has so far recognized only Israel's interests and ignored Arab rights and interests. Now that the international public opinion has become more aware of the reality of the conflict and more understanding of the Arab right, it is natural for one of our states [passage indistinct], submitted to your conference under the heading of the declaration of the eight principles, which were discussed by their highnesses and excellencies, the foreign ministers, at their preliminary meeting, and debated at length in an atmosphere which was characterised by sound views, objectivity, a spirit of solidarity and a sense of responsibility. The declaration you have before you is [word indistinct] the leaders who alone are responsible for [words indistinct].

Resolution on Lebanon

LD260024 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2245 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Excerpts] Fes, 25 Nov (SPA) -- At its closed session this evening the Arab summit conference unanimously approved the draft resolution concerning Lebanon. Here is the text of the draft resolution:

Out of the desire to safeguard Lebanese soil and its integrity, and for the sake of establishing stability in southern Lebanon and consequently in the rest of the area, and as a contribution toward putting an end to the tragedy lived by the sons of the south, and on the basis of the previous Arab summit resolutions, and particularly the 10th summit in Tunis which affirmed that the problem of southern Lebanon is an Arab responsibility as much as it is a Lebanese responsibility, and in view of the increasing dangers which surround southern Lebanon -- dangers which threaten not only Lebanon crisis constitutes one of the approaches to tackling the entire Lebanese crisis, accordingly, the 12th Arab summit conference decides the following:

1. To lay down a comprehensive Arab strategy aimed at preventing Israel from committing aggression and [words indistinct] to confront aggression when it take place, especially against southern Lebanon. This strategy should include, among other things, the following measures and steps:

A. To apply political, diplomatic and economic pressures on all states which support Israel or influence it, particularly the United States so as to deter it from aggression and to make it respect the resolutions of the international bodies, the sovereignty of Lebanon and the sanctity of its soil.

B. To apply all pressures to make the Security Council fully implement Resolution No 425 and its supplements, including full Israeli withdrawal to the internationally recognized borders of Lebanon so that the south can come under the authority of the Lebanese state alone so as to become an area of calm and stability, and to take all the necessary measures through the representatives of the Arab states at the United Nations organization to draw up a program for the implementation of the Security Council resolutions that concern southern Lebanon and for the sake of strengthening the cease-fire.

C. The need for every state to shoulder the burdens of this strategy in all fields according to the abilities and conditions of these states for the purpose of putting an end to the war of attrition which was imposed by the Israeli enemy on Lebanon.

2. To entrust a minicouncil comprising the representatives of the states taking part in this conference to liaise between the secretary general of the Arab League and to immediately embark on drawing up a draft plan for this strategy and to submit it to the Arab League Council at its coming ordinary session which should be at the level of foreign ministers.

3. To support the efforts of the Lebanese Government to enable it deploy the Lebanese Army in the south and carry out its national tasks, and to give aid to Lebanon to strengthen its ability to carry out its national tasks, and to give aid to Lebanon to strengthen its ability to carry burdens which arise from all the state's civilian and military administrations and institutions, their responsibilities and powers, particularly in the south, and to assert the need to implement the fourth resolution which was adopted at the Tunis summit conference and which calls for providing financial aid to rebuild Lebanon.

4. To continue to adhere to the contents of the Security Council resolution.

VOP Comments on Postponement

NC261325 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1135 GMT 26 Nov 81

["With the Events" program]

[Text] Brothers: What happened in Fes yesterday was the first time in the history of the Arab summits that the summit has been postponed indefinitely. This is a polite statement meaning it failed. Why has the 12th summit failed and what are the implications of this? Answering these questions, the official in charge of our radio says:

[Begin recording] We prefer the use of the phrase "the postponement" of the summit rather than "failure" for at least this was the official phrase used at the conclusion of the summit meeting. The reason for postponing the summit meeting, as it is apparent, was the absence of several responsible Arab heads of state. The political item which led to the absence of some leaders and to the failure to adopt a unified Arab stand was the plan by Saudi Arabian Prince Fahd.

Naturally, the plan was widely discussed in the Arab arena a long time before the summit.

The argument was then moved to the foreign ministers conference, and it was supposed to be concluded at the summit. But the stormy atmosphere at the foreign ministers meeting and the absence of prominent leaders has made it impossible to raise the Saudi plan, and consequently the summit has been postponed or, as it is said, has failed.

From our political view, we say that the failure of the summit was due to engrossed discussion concerning a plan that was not originally likely to be realized. Those held responsible outside the summit are the United States and Israel. When Saudi Arabia presented its initiative, or its plan or its ideas, everybody looked at the other side, because in the political work matters cannot be viewed from one angle. The attitude of the other side, namely Israel and the United States has been crystallized as follows: Israel absolutely rejected the plan, while the United States has not referred to the plan in the sense that it accepts the plan or that it is prepared to seriously discuss it. The United States said that the plan includes a positive initiative concerning the recognition [of Israel].

Therefore, the Americans and the Israelis withdrew from the hands of Saudi Arabia some cards of power that would have convinced some Arabs or all of the Arabs of positively viewing this plan.

Many people have assessed the Saudi plan vis-a-vis the Israeli rejection and the U.S. indifference or the U.S. nonacceptance at least as a leap into empty space, into the unknown. Naturally, this deos not mean that the plan in a complete form can be easily accepted by the Arabs, particularly as it includes a clause understood to be a recognition of Israel. This clause was met with reservation and was rejected by the majority of the Arab states. However, because the United States and Israel have adopted a negative attitude toward the plan, this has strengthened the stand which views the acceptance of the Saudi plan, apart from the U.S. and Israeli rejection, could lead to a leap into empty space.

Nevertheless, the summit was not expected to arrive at a unified stand, although wider discussions were to be held and new ideas were to be presented so that the Arab stand might emerge, as usual, with the minimum level of unity. However, as this was the case, we must look forward to the future in the light of the political results or the political implications which might arise from this outcome of the Arab summit.

Naturally, it can be said that the Arab solidarity is now in its worst situation. This may not be a new thing. The Arab reality is evidently not a harmonious reality and does not enjoy the actual minimum level that unites the Arab powers. This weakens the Arab position internationally. It also strengthens the opposite position. For instance, the Arabs, if they could not accept, reject or amend the Saudi plan, should have presented their alternative forcefully and courageously without regard to whether or not it would be realized within the current power equilibriums. They could tell the world this is the minimum limit which we will affirm and maintain and are prepared to mobilize our economic, oil, military and popular forces toward achieving. This was supposed to have taken place.

However, concerning ourselves, the Palestinians, inasmuch as we regret this outcome, will prepare ourselves for a very strong confrontation at the military level in southern Lebanon and at the political level throughout the world. We will embark on the coming phase because we have no other option, particularly as we are approaching a new year of the revolution in which our struggle must continue. At the same time, we will not despair from our Arab brothers and we will seek to close their ranks as much as possible so they may assume some responsibility with us without forgetting for a moment that we waged our main battles always or at least mostly alone.

The failure of the summit or the postponement of the summit, as we said, might lead to weakening the Arab position internationally, but as far as we, the Palestinians, are concerned, this will not prevent us from continuing our struggle at various levels with stronger enthusiasm and with the understanding that our cause is no longer a question disagreed upon by the outside world powers but is also in the core of the Arab situation. It should either have a just and durable solution, and subsequently the slogan saying that the Palestine question is the factor of unity or of disunity in the Arab world will be upheld, or the imaginations will remain in control. Then we will not only witness Arab fragmentation but will also witness fragmentation in the international sphere, which will warn of wide explosions that might not stop at the border of our region.

Saudi 'Source' on Postponement

LD261452 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1318 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Text] Fes, 26 Nov (SPA) -- Some news agencies have carried conflicting reports about what took place at the 12th Arab summit conference and about the Saudi peace plan submitted by Saudi Arabia. The representative of SPA submitted a question about what went on at the conference to an official source in the Saudi delegation to the summit conference. The source gave the following reply.

When the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia made the peace plan public it did not seek personal interest or to achieve a narrow Saudi target. It sought to serve the Arab causes, foremost the Palestinian question, through submitting just and logical principles which enjoy Arab concensus and world support and help to regain for the Arabs their legitimate rights. From the time it was made public the plan received immediate general support from the majority of the sister Arab states, Islamic states and the Asian, African and Western countries, and an Arab demand clearly appeared to submit the plan to the 12th Arab summit conference. The Kingdom had no other option than to respond to this demand. It has become apparent to the Saudi delegation that while the plan enjoyed full support from the majority of the countries participating in the summit, some countries put forward a number of queries and reservations about specific points in the plan.

In view of the complete belief of Saudi Arabia that any Arab strategy must receive collective support to be able to find the necessary support to push forward the Arab posture, the Saudi delegation withdrew the plan stressing to the summit that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is totally ready to accept an alternative unanimously agreed upon by the Arabs.

It immediately transpired that the idea of withdrawing the plan was rejected and the Arab leaders insisted on keeping it on the agenda.

Regarding the postponement of the meetings, this came about as a result of the leaders' conviction that a number of issues on the agenda is connected with the strategy of joint Arab action and with the supreme Arab aims and subsequently requires further research and contacts. Moreover His Majesty King Hassan II suggested that they be debated once again in a meeting to be attended by the heads of the Arab states among whom are those who were unable to attend this meeting. Only they together with all their brethren are capable of taking fateful decisions demanded by the situation. In this light, the conference decided to postpone its meetings and to form a committee comprising the foreign ministers, to continue to study the agenda and to carry out the necessary contacts and consultations to reach agreement which enjoys Arab consensus. All that had been said to the effect that the Saudi plan was the reason for the postponement is just unfounded speculation. The source added that there was no truth in what had been said about the Kingdom trying to convince the summit meeting of its viewpoint and that the Kingdom had urged support for the plan. This is because the Kingdom has not and does not adopt any viewpoint on the Palestinian issue which departs from the Arab consensus or the Palestinian will.

The official source added that the postponement of the conference confirms the fact that the summit conference discharges its duties seriously and responsibly. It prefers that the Arab strategy be discussed in depth so that a unified and unanimous stance is reached instead of adopting resolutions which are passed out of courtesy, or instead of adopting a majority resolution which is opposed by some states, regardless of the size of this majority.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia hopes that Arab efforts which will come in the wake of the conference will succeed in reaching an agreement acceptable to the Palestinian and Arab brothers, which is taken seriously by the whole world and which will assist the Arab nation to restore its legitimate rights.

AFP Analysis

NC260827 Paris AFP in English 0757 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Text] Fes, Morocco, 26 Nov (AFP) -- Saudi Arabia appeared today to have lost heavily at the Arab summit which foundered here yesterday afternoon, after less than six hours, over Saudi Crown Prince Fahd's eight-point Middle East peace plan.

The Saudis had meticulously prepared for the meeting, thinking it would endorse their power in the Middle East after their success [word indistinct] to obtain AWACS radar planes from the U.S.

The plan envisages the establishment of a Palestinian state on the Jordan River West Bank, now occupied by Israel, and recognises the right of all states in the region to exist in security.

But though the two-year-old impasse in Israeli-Egyptian negotiations on Palestinian autonomy had in fact strengthened the Saudi case for an alternative to the Camp David accords, there had been warnings against it.

Several members of the hard-line Arab steadfastness front -- particularly Syria -- had said it was the wrong time to launch such an initiative.

Reliable sources here said the Syrian warnings had multiplied in recent weeks, in an effort to dissuade the Saudis from placing their plan on the summit's agenda.

The Syrian view, shared by the steadfastness front and Iraq, was that to adopt Crown Prince Fahd's plan in the present circumstances would give Israel a free hand without guaranteeing a serious Israeli response.

At the same time, according to several Arab delegations, Syria's reluctance about the Fahd Plan stemmed not so much from disagreement with the plan itself, but from a lack of enthusiasm about Saudi Arabia's new ambitions in the region.

As the summit here opened, the question of whether or not to study the plan arose quickly, reliable sources said. Then after three hours of talks, King Hassan of Morroco -- another loser here -- decided on an adjournment of the summit to a later date.

At the request of Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis, the summit then studied the situation in troubled Lebanon and rapidly adopted all the pertinent resolutions on it, turning Fes into a "mini-summit" on Lebanon.

The consequences of the delays here on inter-Arab relations were unclear today, and Palestinians and Lebanese were making gloomy predictions.

Saudi Arabia was greatly concerned about what it considered a slap in the face from Syria, making the Saudis' longtime role as mediator in the Lebanese situation shaky.

Relations between Saudi Arabia and Syria inevitably have repercussions on the Lebanese front.

In the medium run, relations among moderate, pro-American and other Arab regimes were also in question.

It was too soon to say if the short-lived summit was the prelude to a rapprochement between the moderate Arab states and Egypt, but it was certain the Arab world would have a hard time re-establishing cohesion after Fes.

New Summit Planned

JN261310 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1250 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Text] Fes, 26 Nov (INA) -- Moroccan Foreign Minister M'hamed Boucetta has stated that the Arab League General Secretariat will call for a new meeting of the Arab foreign ministers by the end of next month. He added in a statement to INA today that the General Secretariat will set the date of the meeting, which will be held in Fes, in light of its consultations with the Arab states. He asserted that the Arab summit conference will be held in Fes within the next few months in light of the results of the next Arab foreign ministers conference.

GULF AFFAIRS

GULF COUNCIL SECRETARY ON FUTURE ACTIVITIES

GF251720 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1410 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Text] Riyadh, 25 Nov (WAKH) -- 'Abdallah Ya'qub Bisharah, the secretary general of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC], said that the ministers of finance and economy of the council's states will meet in Riyadh on 26 January in order to lay down the executive general rules of the joint economic agreement that was recently signed by the leaders of the six gulf states during their meeting in Riyadh.

In a statement to QNA, Mr Bisharah added that during the present stage the GCC will concentrate on the implementation of this agreement because it is the main factor that will link the people of the gulf and boost joint gulf action many practical steps further.

Mr Bisharah indicated that the experts committee which stems from the conference of the industry ministers that was held Riyadh in October will meet in Manama next week in order to discuss the formulation of a united system for the exchange of information on industrial projects in the council's states as a first step in the field of industrial coordination and cooperation.

He announced that the defense ministers of the council's states will hold a meeting in Riyadh on 18 January in order to discuss the priorities of cooperation in the military field to preserve the sovereignty and independence of the region.

He added that he will meet with Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz on Tuesday in order to set a date for the meeting of the interior ministers of the council's states who will discuss protection of the six states' internal fronts and coordinate security so the gulf home can become solid.

Mr Bisharah indicated that the GCC is now laying down bases on which all coordination and cooperation issues among the council's states will be established. This will apply to all fields in implementation of the first Gulf summit's resolutions. He explained that this is aimed at securing stability in the region and safeguarding the political and economic achievements of the council's states according to the philosophy of independence and nonreliance on others.

WAKH REVIEWS BAHRAINI, SAUDI PRESS ON FES SUMMIT

GF270920 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0740 GMT 27 Nov 81

[Excerpts] Manama, 27 November (WAKH) -- Today's Gulf papers urge Arab leaders to work seriously and to cast their differences aside, particularly following the Fes summit.

The Bahraini paper AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ says that the Arab nation expects -- indeed demands -- a new responsible stand in which pan-Arab sentiments will rise above any individual stands. Let everyone hasten to serious work because nothing is graver than a whole nation feeling that its pride has been hurt.

The paper regrets the decision to postpone the meetings of the Arab summit and adds: Despite its harshness and despite the fact that it shocked every Arab, the decision made during the Fes meetings was the barrier that prevented the situation from declining into a deep abyss and reaching the stage of irrevocable collapse.

AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ adds: It is certain that everyone now needs to search one's soul and lay aside all feelings regarding the victory of this or the defeat of that. There is no room today to talk about achievements but, frankly, we cannot but hang on to the vestiges of hope and absolutely refuse to accept that this is the end of Arab solidarity.

In its editorial today the Saudi newspaper 'UKAZ says that the postponement of the Fes summit aims to prepare a firmer ground and create a more favorable climate to bring about the Arab concensus required by the present decisive stage in the Arab-Israeli conflict. 'UKAZ says: When it went to Fes with the peace plan Saudi Arabia's aim was to achieve an Arab concensus and a united Arab approach and voice that would put before the international community the Arab approach for resolving the Middle East crisis that is divorced from western or other proposals.

Another Saudi paper, AL-JAZIRAH, reaffirms that Saudi Arabia did not attempt to impose its plan on any Arab or international party but wanted the plan to be discussed and closely studied by the Arabs so that they would decide whether to accept or reject it. The paper refers to the statement made by a responsible Saudi source who was a member of the Saudi delegation to the summit conference yesterday in which he asserted that the Saudi peace plan was not the reason for the conference's postponement.

AL-JAZIRAH adds: Saudi Arabia's good intentions and pan-Arab [qawmiyah] objectives in its plan are demonstrated by its readiness to withdraw the plan at the conference when differences arose in order to prevent any divisions. However, it immediately emerged that the majority at the conference opposes the Saudi delegation's intention to withdraw the plan.

AL-JAZIRAH calls for supporting the Arab League by participating in all its work and activities first among which is the Arab summit that is held annually in order to support the Arab's cause of destiny and common march.

BAHRAIN

AMIR RETURNS FROM FES, MAKES STATEMENT

GF270721 Manama WAKH in Arabic 2015 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Text] Manama, 26 Nov (WAKH) -- Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the amir of Bahrain, returned to Manama tonight from the Moroccan city of Fes after leading the Bahraini delegation to the 12th Arab summit held there yesterday.

The amir was received by Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the prime minister; Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, heir apparent and commander in chief of the Bahrain defense force; and civilian and military officials.

In a statement on arrival Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the amir of Bahrain, said: Numerous issues that are of interest to the Arab nation were discussed at the summit conference in a responsible, serious and realistic spirit and in an atmosphere of frankness and objectivity.

He said that the postponement of the conference to a later date was to complete the consultations necessary to take action commensurate with the dangers facing the Arab nation in the present critical circumstances. He expressed the hope that coordination would continue so as to complete the discussion of the topics on the conference's agenda early next year because the 12th summit conference has not yet completed its work.

With regard to the Lebanese crisis the amir said that the conference has approved the recommendations and resolutions requested by the Lebanese Government. He expressed his full confidence that the Arab nation will unify its ranks and that it will proceed, with God's help, toward the desired future to build its own strength in all spheres.

The amir thanked the Kingdom of Morocco for hosting the conference. He paid tribute to King Hassan II and to his government and people for facilitating the conference's work.

KUWAIT

AMIR RETURNS FROM SUMMIT, MAKES STATEMENT

LD261404 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Excerpts] His highness the amir of Kuwait, who headed Kuwait's delegation to the 12th Arab summit conference in Fes, returned home today with the delegation at 1045.

His highness the amir of Kuwait made the following statement on his return to the homeland:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. With the help of almighty God we took part in the 12th Arab summit meeting in Fes, in sister Morocco, where representatives of all the Arab states met to study the agenda of the conference drawn by the foreign ministers. An agenda full of subjects of concern to our Arab nation in this important period which is rife with events and changes.

The view of the participants at the conference coincided after their first meeting on the need to postpone the meetings for a period of time during which consultations will take place and viewpoints will be exchanged among the member states about many subjects on the agenda. Also during this period a meeting of the foreign ministers will be held for further study and investigation and to decide on a suitable date for resuming the summit meeting in the Kingdom of Morocco.

The participants, in addition to this decision, considered it necessary to approve the foreign ministers recommendations regarding the Lebanese republic in view of their urgent nature. We are confident that the postponement of the meeting will have good results on the Arab and international levels and will have good returns in our Arab homeland, which places great hopes on positive results being produced by the consultations and meetings, to realize for our people their aspirations and hopes.

OMAN

VOLUNTEER RESERVE ARMED FORCE INTRODUCED

EA261852 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Text] Arising from the principles of preparing a trained national military force to raise the capabilities of the sultan's armed forces and elevate their combat efficiency in all circumstances of peace and war and of mobilizing resources capable of reinforcing the combat ability of the sultan's armed forces when necessary, His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id, supreme commander of the armed forces, has issued a royal decree providing for the formation of a volunteer reserve force of the Sultan's regular Armed Forces from civilian countrymen and also officers and NCOs who had previously served in the sultan of Oman's land forces for a period of not less than 5 years and whose services were terminated for normal reasons.

Among the conditions for voluneers for the reserve force are that their ages should not be more than 35 years and that they should not be among those working in the police organ or (?affiliated to) any foreign force. Former NCOs with the rank of sergeant and above will be accepted up to the age of 45.

The volunteer has the freedom to choose the unit which he will join in the sultan of Oman's land forces on being enrolled into the reserve force, with the exception of those who formerly served in the artillery who may only volunteer for work in the sultan of Oman's artillery.

The royal decree provides that the volunteers for the reserve force shall be subject to military training for 2 weeks every year at times to be specified by the Ministry of Defense.

After completion of training, the volunteer shall receive a financial remuneration amounting to 250 Omani rials, in addition to a salary to be paid to him for the period of training in accordance with the salary system in force in the Sultan's armed forces. This will not affect his original post in his department or the salary, promotions or allowances due to him during the period of training and callup in a state of emergency.

The various ministries, state departments and other departments shall allow their employees and those working with them who volunteered for the reserve force to offer themselves for duties in the Sultan's Armed Forces upon request.

The Ministry of Defense has advised those wishing to volunteer for the reserve force or know more details to refer to any unit of the Sultan's Armed Forces with effect from this date [presumably 26 November].

SAUDI ARABIA

FAHD INTERVIEWED ON FES SUMMIT, PEACE PLAN

LD252104 Riyadh SPA in English 1905 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Text] Jidda, 25 Nov (SPA) -- Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz today reaffirmed that the Arab summit meeting in Fes has been convened at a time when there was a paramount need for unifying Arab ranks, reviewing jointly their affairs and solving their marginal disputes, so as to realise the desired goals of the Arab nation.

In an interview with AL-BILAD newspaper, Prince Fahd stressed the necessity of evolving a unified stand to achieve the aspired objectives of the Arab and Islamic nation.

Prince Fahd expressed his optimism over positive outcome of the Fes summit, which will be discussing prime Arab issues, led by the Palestinian peoples legitimate right of self-determination for establishing their independent state.

He noted the eight-point peace plan was introduced by the kingdom to crystalise the current circumstances and condition.

He said Saudi Arabian peace proposals are presented in the summit for discussions and not with a purpose of imposing them on Arab or non-Arab countries.

Prince Fahd observed the Kingdom's peace plan will restore the Palestinians their usurped rights, ensure normal life for them and free them from prolonged tragedies and sufferings imposed by the Zionist enemy.

King Khalid Interviewed

LD252058 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1827 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 25 Nov (SPA) -- His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz today talked to a number of pressmen who asked his majesty about the 12th Arab summit conference in Fes. His majesty described the Fes summit as an historic conference to which the Arab nation looks with great hope and expectation in anticipation of the proposals that will be brought forth from it. His Majesty King Khalid said that there is no doubt that we are passing through a critical and delicate stage which requires from us all our capabilities and effort to bolster the Arab issue, which is the Palestinian issue.

His majesty underlined the need for continued and persistent efforts to regain the rights of the Palestinians, from there it is for us, in the shadow of that delicate stage, to take full responsibility before God and before our peoples and nations [few words indistinct] because God records our every move. His majesty said that we in the Kingdom have not and would not spare what is within our grasp -- with God's permission -- to work in all seriousness and honesty to unite the word and the people.

As an Arab nation we have to realize that the extent of our success is bound by the extent of our adherence to God's path and to our authentic Arab principles and values.

INFORMATION MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON PEACE PLAN

LD251952 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Text] Saudi Information Minister Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani has affirmed that the Saudi Arabian Kingdom will spare no efforts in bolstering the Palestine action, thus enabling the PLO to play its full role and shoulder its responsibilities on all levels; whether or not Arabs accepted or rejected its peace plan which sought to bring about a lasting just peace in the Middle East.

In an interview with the Saudi paper 'UKAZ, the first part of which was published today, Yamani said that in putting forward its eight-point plan, the Saudi Arabian Kingdom was only reiterating what Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz had affirmed: That the issues of the Arab nation have continued to occupy the attention of the responsible officials in this country, prompting them to seek by practical means to frustrate the designs of enemies and all foreign powers aiming to detract from the rights and security of this nation.

He affirmed the Kingdom's constant rejection of unilateral actions in matters affecting major destiny issues and its anxiousness to put forward its eight-point peace plan to the world through a collective Arab will, which will affirm to the whole world that we want and do not reject peace, that we work for peace and do not act against it.

He added that in putting forward its peace plan as a purely Saudi endeavor, the Kingdom did not mean to act dominantly, did not mean to claim absolute leadership of the Arab nation, nor did it seek hegemony, all Saudi Arabia sought, he added, was to secure the safety of the Arab nation from all the positions it can, positions that help Saudi Arabia to serve the causes of the Arab nation, and to bolster the Arab nations place in the international community -- guided in this regard by all the aims, social stands and interests of the Arab nation -- no matter what sacrifice Saudi Arabia had to make at the expense of Saudi interests and rights. This is because of its belief that the sublime Arab interest must govern the actions and attitudes and moves of all.

Dr Yamani said the Kingdom believed and continues to believe in the need to face up to its enemies with the most effective available means, coupled with efforts for the realization of Arab solidarity, the exploitation of the failure of all imperfect initiatives, and to prove that the Arab nation wants, desires and works for peace.

He pointed out that acceptance of the eight-point plan will place Israel in an extremely difficult position and reflects the will of the Arabs, the desire for peace of the peaceful Palestinian people and nullifies Israel's allegations against the PLO.

Dr Yamani said that the first result of the Saudi plan was to expose Israel, which rushed to reject it before the world public opinion.

He said that the Arab meeting and support for the plan, and the intensive Arab governmental and popular presence in the American arena would force a change in U.S. policy in favor of Arab just causes.

He pointed out that the Saudi plan, which has not overlooked any Arab resolutions on the matter, represents at the same time a stage of postabsorption of all changes that have taken place since the 1967 Khartoum summit conference. It is our right, he said, to ask what has been achieved by rejection for the sake of rejection along.

He called on the Arab nation to prove to the world that the Arab will for security, peace and stability remains. He affirmed that movement toward this end should proceed with caution and vigilance and that we should benefit from all chances for reaching understanding with others and securing their response to our cause.

OFFICIAL DENIES PLAN REASON FOR POSTPONMENT

GF271003 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 27 Nov 81

[Text] Some news agencies have carried conflicting reports on what happened at the 12th Arab summit conference and the Saudi peace plan. The SPA correspondent has asked a responsible official source in the Saudi delegation participating in the Fes summit conference about what happened at the conference. The source gave the following answer:

When it announced its peace plan the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia did not aim to further any of its own interests or achieve a narrow Saudi objective but sought to serve Arab interests and primarily the Palestinian cause by putting forward logical and just principles that would enjoy an Arab consensus and international support and assist the Arabs in regaining their legitimate rights.

Since its declaration the plan enjoyed a general spontaneous support by the majority of the fraternal Arab Muslim, African, Asian and European countries. There was a clear Arab demand to present the plan to the 12th Arab summit conference. Saudi Arabia had no choice but to respond to this demand. It became clear to the Saudi delegation that while the plan enjoyed the full support of the majority of states participating in the summit, some countries had a number of questions and reservations on certain points in the plan. In view of Saudi Arabia's firm belief that any Arab strategy must enjoy unanimous support so as to find the impetus that would ensure advancing the Arab stand, the Saudi delegation withdrew the plan and stressed to the summit conference that Saudi Arabia is fully prepared to accept any alternative on which all the Arabs agree.

It immediately transpired that the withdrawal of the plan was rejected and that the Arab leaders insisted on keeping the plan on the agenda and without anyone opposing this.

With regard to the postponement of the conference's meetings, this was the result of the leaders' belief that a number of topics on the agenda deal with the strategy of joint Arab action and supreme Arab goals and consequently require further consultations and contacts. Moreover, His Majesty King Hassan II proposed that these topics be discussed once again at a meeting that will be attended by the heads of the Arab states whose circumstances prevented them from attending this meeting, in view of the fact that they form the same unit as their other brothers who are able to make the fateful decisions that the situation requires.

In light of this, the conference decided to postpone its meetings and to form a committee of the foreign ministers that will continue studying the agenda and hold the necessary contacts and consultations to reach an agreement that enjoys unanimous Arab support.

The view that the Saudi plan was the reason for the conference's postponement is merely a deduction that is totally unconnected with the truth.

The source added: There is no truth to the reports that Saudi Arabia tried to persuade the summit conference to accept its view and urged it to support the plan. This is because Saudi Arabia has not adopted in the past and does not now adopt any view that is at variance with Arab unanimity and the Palestinian will.

The responsible source added: The conference's postponement confirms that the summit conference approaches its duties with a sense of responsibility and seriousness and prefers that the Arab strategy is amply and fully discussed so that a unified and unanimous stand is adopted instead of adopting stands based on flattery or insisting on adopting a resolution by a majority that is opposed by some countries -- however clear and big this majority may be. Saudi Arabia hopes that the Arab efforts that will follow the conference will succeed in reaching an agreement that is acceptable to Palestinian and Arab brothers and that is taken seriously by the entire world and helps the Arab nation regain its legitimate rights.

PDRY

'ALI NASIR RETURNS HOME FROM FES VIA DAMASCUS

GF270725 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0605 GMT 27 Nov 81

[Text] Aden, 27 Nov (WAKH) -- 'Ali Nasir Muhammad [al-Hasani], chairman of the Presidium of the PDRY Supreme People's Council, returned to Aden early today. He attended the meetings of the 12th Arab summit conference which ended in Fes, Morocco, the day before yesterday.

Aden radio reported that Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad stopped in Damascus last night on his way home and met with Syrian Prime Minister 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm and Syrian officials and discussed with them the Arab situation and in particular the Middle East situation and the topics discussed at the 12th Arab summit conference, as well as the international situation and bilateral relations.

PAPERS COMMENT ON FES CONFERENCE 'FAILURE'

NC270628 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2248 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Text] Cairo, 26 Nov (MENA) -- In their Friday editions Cairo papers express regret that the Arab summit conference, which convened in Fes yesterday, has failed.

AL-AHRAM says Egypt had hoped that the summit conference would assert its presence with informed and constructive solutions based on a scientific analysis of the realities of the current situation -- solutions that would confirm the Arab states' ability to deal with the realities of the situation with mature political awareness. However, some Arab states still cannot, for various reasons, face reality with sufficient courage. This is what makes the Arab conferences revert to the same wornout methods despite the fact that these lead to failure.

The paper points out that several phenomena led to the failure of the Fes conference. The first phenomenon is that the conference was not proceded by proper preparations; the second phenomenon is that summit meetings continue to be held with "political bigotry" ['isab siyasi], which makes the members revert to the vicious-circle pattern with the same symptoms of futile convulsions and exchanges of accusations; the third phenomenon is the continued absence of alternatives, which are the basis of flexibility in political action. No plans vis-a-vis the Saudi peace plan have as yet been put forward that would serve the same aim -- the radical solution of the Middle East problem.

AL-JUMHURIYAH emphasizes that all Arabs cannot but feel regret for the result of the Fes conference, whose agenda collapsed after the shortest meeting ever held at this level in modern Arab history.

The paper says that contrary to what many people had hoped for before the conference convened, the conference ended with results that are far worse than the pessimists had expected. The image of Saudi Arabia has been seriously shaken following the rejection of Prince Fahd's peace plan, Syrian-Saudi relations have been subjected to an acute crisis that could torpedo the remaining unity of the Arab ranks, even at the level of slogans, and the PLO is now in an unenviable position with regard to its crisis with its "friends" and financiers.

The paper points out that considering the feeling of bitterness which prevails in Arab circles, the basic question that remains to be asked, though with greater pessimism, is: Can the Arabs really unite?

AL-JUMHURIYAH says that most observers are unanimous that Egypt's absence from the Arab arena increases the difficulty of resolving this question. They point out that just as Egypt has been the key to war and victory in the area, it is also the key to peace and Arab unity.

GHALI: SUMMIT COLLAPSE SHOWS ARAB POLICY FAILS

NC261305 Paris AFP in English 1251 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Excerpt] Cairo, 26 Nov (AFP) -- The collapse of the Arab League summit in Fes has demonstrated once again that without Egypt the Arab world can make no useful contribution to peace in the Middle East, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali said here today.

Mr Ghali said that though Egypt did not want to monopolize the search for a peaceful solution to the Mideast problem the Egyptian way was the only road to peace in the region.

In a reference to the Palestinians, he added that his government did not want to "force its tutelage on any party involved in this conflict", but would continue its efforts to achieve a "just, global and lasting peace".

HASANAYN HAYKAL, OTHERS RELEASED FROM CUSTODY

NC251318 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1242 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Text] We have received the following statement: Counselor 'Abd al-Qadir Ahmad 'Ali, the socialist public prosecutor, has issued a decision releasing from custody certain political elements who were included in Republican Decree No 493 of 1981. They number 31 persons, namely: Muhammad Fu'ad Siraj ad-Din, Muhammad Hasanayn Haykal, Dr Muhammad Hilmi Murad, Ibrahim Mustafa Tal'at, Muhammad Fahim Amin, Hamid Radwan Al-Azhari, Muhammad Fathi Radwan, Mustafa Muhammad Muhammad 'Asi, Muhmud 'Ali Hasan Zaynumum, 'Abd as-Samad 'Abd al-Jawad ash-Sharqawi, 'Abd al-'Aziz Muhammad Abu al-Futuh, Ahmad Farghali Mustafa Imam, Muhammad 'Awad Shafiq, Samih Ma'ruf 'Ashur, Dr Milad Mikha'il Hanna, Ibrahim Muhammad Ibrahim Yunis, Hamid Zaydan Hamid Ghunaym, Dr Sabir Muhammad Basyuni Hashim, 'Abd al-'Aziz Muhammad ash-Shurbaji, Jalal Muhammad Muhammad Yusuf Rajab, Jamal As'ad 'Abd al-Malak, Muhammad Kamal ad-din Hasan Farraj, Safinaz Kazim Asfahani, Muhammad Salah ad-din Hasan Farraj, Qabbari 'Abdallah 'Abd al-Halim, Muhammad Khalil Kahlik, Muhammad Isma'il 'Ali 'Id, Farid 'Abd al-Karim, Dr Nawal as-Sayyid as-Sa'dawi, 'Abd al-Fattah Hasan Muhammad, and Muhammad Muhammad Fa'iq.

The decision for their release was based on the fact that within the framework of closing the ranks and of mobilizing and massing the national effort behind the new leadership, it is worthy of turning a new leaf in the political dealings with the political elements under custody and of suspending the cases, including the evidence, against them.

HAYKAL EXPRESSES 'STRONG SUPPORT' FOR MUBARAK

NC251415 Cairo MENA in English 1338 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Text] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA) -- Muhammad Hasanayan Haykal former editor of AL-AHRAM newspaper, said after he was received today by President Husni Mubarak that he believed it was the first time the president of the republic received and talked to persons who had been in custody. "I consider this in itself a very great thing". Haykal said their release today was unconditional.

He added: "What I heard from the president today inspires confidence. The president opens a new page in the history of Egypt. Personally I most strongly support the president and wish him success. I am confident that it will be a shining page and I wish him success. It is the duty of every nationalist to support the president and support him in opening this new page".

'Abd al-Aziz ash-Shurbaji said the order releasing 31 of those who had been in custody was a "sincere effort by the president to rally ranks". He wished the president success in serving the interests of the country.

MUBARAK MEETS HAYKAL, OTHER RELEASEES

NC251421 Cairo MENA in English 1400 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Text] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA) -- President Husni Mubarak today received those who had been in custody and were released by the public prosecutor today.

Among those received by the president was Muhammad Hasanayn Haykal, former editor of AL-AHRAM newspaper.

The first of the group to be received by the president was "Abd al-'Aziz ash-Shurbaji, who came to the Al-'Urubah Palace in a private car as he was in the hospital. President Mubarak asked Ash-Shurbaji about his health. The others arrived in police minibuses to the palace.

Foremost among them was Muhammad Hasanayn Haykal, the president enquired after their health all. The president's meeting with them lasted 75 minutes.

RELEASED DETAINEES CAN RESUME POLITICAL ACTIVITY

NC251445 Cairo MENA in English 1410 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Text] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA) -- First Deputy Premier Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din said today President Husni Mubarak had given directives to issue the decision for the release of 31 of those who had been taken in custody last September after consulting with the concerned bodies.

The president's decision emanated from his true understanding of sound democratic practice and his expectation that this group would begin a new page of political action.

Muhyi ad-Din was present when President Mubarak received those who were released by the socialist public prosecutor today. Muhvi ad-Din said that President Mubarak explained to those released today the dangers to which the country was exposed as a result of extremism.

The first deputy prime minister said that investigations conducted by the socialist public prosecutor had established that those released today had no connection with extremism, which had endangered the whole country and which resulted in the late leader Anwar as-Sadat falling martyr.

Muhyi ad-Din said those released today expressed, through their spokesman, their appreciation of the step taken by the president and stressed that they would adhere to democracy.

The deputy premier said that a new page of free dialogue would begin for the service of Egypt.

"We have all agreed chat this was the aim as outlined by President Mubarak in his address, when he said that Egypt was for all".

Muhyi ad-Din said in reply to a question that there were about 45 more politicians in custody, some of them are accused of communicating with a foreign power and will be referred to the state security prosecutor's office to complete investigations with them and take the necessary action.

Investigations were continuing with the others and if no charge was established against them they would be released immediately.

The first deputy premier said those released today would be entitled to lead normal life. They can return to their jobs so that they may play their role in serving Egypt in a nationalist spirit as they declared in front of the president today.

Those released said in their statements before the president today that it was the first time in Egypt's history and all over the world that persons released from custody were received by the president of the republic directly upon their release and the president held a dialogue with them.

The deputy prime minister told a questioner that those released could resume their political activity.

LABOR PARTY SUPPORTS FREEDOM FOR DETAINEES

NC251550 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Text] The Socialist Labor Party has issued a statement saying that in continuation of the spirit which prevailed in the political work recently and in accordance with the Party's principles and policy, the Party leaderships and masses regard the decision to release [31 of those held in custody] is an illustrious step on the path of democracy and a clear sign emphasizing respect for the Egyptian human rights. Moreover, it confirms the sincerity of the slogans which have been declared by President Mubarak. It also gives hope to all the masses in the supremacy of wisdom, justice and the law under the new government. The statement emphasized the Party's sincere support for the president in his prudent initiative, imploring God to grant him success in achieving welfare and justice and confirming the concepts of democracy.

LIBERAL PARTY PRAISES FREEDOM DECISION

NC251547 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Text] The Socialist Liberal Party has declared that President Husni Mubarak's initiative [of releasing 31 of those held in custody] is regarded as a good step which has caused great satisfaction in political and party circles.

AZ-ZAYYAT, OTHERS TO FACE FURTHER PROSECUTION

NC251507 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1245 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Text] The counselor and socialist public prosecutor has issued another decision referring case number 442 of 1981 to the state security higher public prosecution. Case number 442 is to conclude the investigation held by the state security higher public prosecution concerning the charge of communication [with a foreign power]. Muhammad 'Abd as-Salam az-Zayyat and 21 other persons are referred to the state security higher public prosecution -- in this case on its merit -- for the state higher public prosecution to take the necessary action.

The persons affected by this referral are: Husayn Muhammad Husayn 'Abd ar-Raziq; 'Abd al-'Azim Isma'il al-Mughrabi; Faridah 'Abd al-Mu'min an-Naqqash; Kamal Ahmad Muhammad, alias Kamal Ahmad; Muhammad Sabri Mahdi; 'Ismat Sayf ad-Dawlah 'Abbas; Abu al-'Izz Hasan al-Hariri; Muhammad Hilmi ash-Sha'rawi; Ahmad Lutfi al-Khuli; Dr Latifah az-Zayyat; Dr Isma'il Sabri 'Abdallah; Dr Mahmud Ahmad al-Qadi; Dr 'Awatif Muhammad 'Abd ar-Rahman; Dr Khalil Hasan Khalil; Faruq 'Ali Thabit; Dr Muhammad Kamal 'Atiyah al-Ibrashi; Muhammad 'Abd al-Fattah 'Awdah; Rushi Sa'id Faraj; Dr Fu'ad Mursi al-Haddad; Dr Muhammad Ahmad Khalafallah and Aminah Ibrahim Rashid.

FOREIGN MINISTRY ON ISRAELI REMARKS ON MFO

NC261858 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Text] An Egyptian Foreign Ministry spokesman has commented on the statement of Israeli Chief of Staff Refa'el Eytan on the formation of the Multinational Force and Observers [MFO] in Sinai, saying that it is well known that, in addition to the EEC countries, there are five other countries that have expressed a readiness to participate in the Sinai peacekeeping force. The MFO commander and director are currently holding the necessary contacts regarding the final status of the force. General Eytan stated that Israel will not withdraw from Sinai, if the multinational force is not formed. He said the MFO formation is considered an indivisible part of the Camp David agreements.

HAMMADI WELCOMES POSTPONEMENT OF ARAB SUMMIT

JN260841 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0730 GMT 26 Nov 81

[INA team dispatch]

[Text] Fes, 26 Nov (INA) -- Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi described yesterday's decision to postpone the 12th Arab summit conference as a decision indicating success and not failure.

In a statement to INA, he said that if the summit conference had continued work and dealt with the grave topics on its agenda in a superficial manner, it would face one of two possibilities: a split or useless superficial unity and agreement. Dr Hammadi added that the Iraqi delegation to the conference regarded the agenda topics as major and important topics, some submitted for the first time and others shrouded in ambiguity. The delegation also noted the unfamiliarity of some conferees of the details of these topics. He further added that the Iraqi delegation viewed the conference options as either dealing with these topics superficially for shallow political reasons related to courtesy and getting these topics over with, or dealing with them seriously. In the latter case, they would require more time.

Dr Hammadi said that during the Arab foreign ministers' meetings, as is recorded in the minutes, Iraq suggested that no decision be made now on the new serious topics and that more time be given for further consultations on the Arab and international levels so that greater understanding can be reached. Therefore, we suggested postponing them to another Arab summit. He added that during their meeting today [presumably 25 November] the Arab presidents, kings and heads of delegations noted the importance of giving more time to the study of these topics. Therefore, he said, they decided to devote more time to these topics -- although there might be so-called differences in viewpoints -- as this will make the line straight rather than crooked.

He said: We the Arabs have been accustomed to considering every conference successful on entering it and then wrapping it up after completing its formalities. He explained that this is a wrong and incorrect stand and said: What is important is to emerge from the conference with useful and successful results. He added that during yesterday's meeting, the head of the Iraqi delegation stressed that it is high time to deal with topics in a serious manner, not with mere formalities.

Concluding, Dr. Hammadi said that giving a further chance to study these topics is the right approach, which demonstrates that we want to deal with important and serious topics in a serious and not a superficial manner.

'IZZAT IBRAHIM EXPLAINS SAUDI PLAN REJECTION

JN252154 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2125 GMT 25 Nov 81

[INA team dispatch]

[Text] Fes, 25 Nov (INA) -- 'Izzat Ibrahim, vice chairman of the Revolution Command Council, has asserted that Iraq's stand on the Saudi plan during the Arab foreign ministers conference stems from a sincere and mature visualization of the delicacy of the circumstances surrounding the Arab nation and its basic issues, particularly the issue which is the (?target) of this plan: the Palestinian issue. In a speech delivered here this evening at the closed session of the 12th Arab summit conference, he explained that Iraq's opposition to the Saudi plan stems from this visualization.

'Izzat Ibrahim expressed Iraq's appreciation for all the Arab countries' efforts for the [word indistinct] issue and joint Arab action.

He supported the conference chairman's proposal to postpone the Arab summit to give a better chance for the kings and other leaders to amend, add to or delete [words indistinct] about the plan or its contents. He added: This chance might enable the kings and other leaders, or those who can represent them under the constitution, to attend in person, since [words indistinct] a great historic responsibility to the Arab nation and its destiny. It is impermissible for the conference to emerge with anything but unanimity regarding such topics.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUES

No 531

JN231613 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1550 GMT 23 Nov 81

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Nov (INA) -- Today, Iraqi aircraft dealt painful blows to the Iranian enemy's targets in the southern sector of the battlefield, inflicting great loss in lives and equipment. Fire was seen at these targets before our aircraft returned safely to base.

Communique No. 531, issued by the Armed Forces General Command today on war actions during the past 24 hours, put the Iranian enemy losses at 23 killed and 4 vehicles, 1 rocket launcher, 1 excavator, 1 stockpile of hardware and 2 observation posts destroyed. Our losses were nine martyrs and one tank and one mortar damaged. Following is the text of the communnique:

Communique No. 531 issued by the Armed Forces General Command.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Following are the results of the military actions carried out by our brave armed forces in the operational sectors yesterday evening and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. One of our forward units saw an enemy concentration in the Abadan region and opened fire on it, killing 15 and destroying 3 vehicles, 1 stockpile of hardware and 2 observation posts.
B. Six killed in the Sumar region.
C. One killed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region.
D. One killed in the Mehran region.
E. One rocket launcher destroyed in the Dezful region.
F. One vehicle destroyed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region.
G. One excavator destroyed in the Gilan-e Gharb region
H. Today, our valiant aircraft dealt painful blows to the enemy targets in the southern sector of the battlefield, inflicting great loss in lives and equipment. Fire was seen at these targets before our aircraft returned safely to base.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 23 killed and 4 vehicles, 1 rocket launcher, 1 excavator, 1 stockpile of hardware and 2 observation posts destroyed.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: nine martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: one tank and one mortar damaged.

No 532

JN241724 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 24 Nov 81

[Communique No. 532 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 24 November 1981]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The brave sons of the Iraqi Army and people continue to fight the forces of charlatary in Iran to wrest our legitimate rights from them and safeguard our sovereignty and dignity. The outcome of the activities in the operational sectors last night and today was as follows:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. One of our brave forward units in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region intercepted enemy forces which tried to approach our forward positions and engaged it with various weapons, forcing it to flee after sustaining 27 killed, who are still lying in no man's land.
B. One of our forward units in the Sumar region pounded enemy concentrations in front of their positions, killing 13.
C. Eight were killed and one vehicle was destroyed in the Dezful region.
D. Five were killed and one gun, one stockpile of hardware and two observation posts were destroyed in the Abadan region.
E. Three were killed and one excavator was destroyed in the Mehran region.
F. Three were killed and two observation posts were destroyed in the Mimak region in front of our forward positions in Sayf Sa'd.
G. One vehicle was destroyed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region.
H. The aircraft of our brave air force raided enemy positions and concentrations in the southern sector of the operational theater, scoring direct and effective hits before returning safely to base.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 59 killed and 2 vehicles, 1 gun, 1 excavator, 1 stockpile of hardware and 4 observation posts destroyed.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 11 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: one mortar damaged.

No 533

JN251733 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Communique No. 533 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 25 November 1981]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

With deep faith in victory and high ability, our valiant armed forces will continue to deal blows to the forces of the ignorant Persian regime until it concedes the legitimate rights of Iraq and the Arab nation. The outcome of the activities in the operational sectors last night and today was as follows:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. With high courage, one of our forward units raided enemy concentrations in the Shush region and hit it with various weapons, forcing it to abandon its positions in panic leaving behind 23 killed.
B. One of our courageous units engaged an enemy force which was trying desperately to approach our forward positions in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region, killing 24.

C. One of our forward units attacked enemy positions and concentrations in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region. A short and decisive battle ensued during which the iniquitous enemy lost 16 killed and 4 tanks and 1 observation post were destroyed.
D. Seven were killed and two tanks, one vehicle, two guns, two stockpiles of hardware and three observation posts were destroyed in the Abadan region.
E. Seven were killed and one vehicle and two stockpiles of hardware were destroyed in the Nowsud region.
F. Two were killed and one gun was destroyed in the Gilan-e Gharb region.
G. Two were killed in the Dezful region.
H. Our aircraft today continued their successful raids on enemy positions, armor and concentrations in the southern sector of the operational theater, scoring direct and effective hits before returning safely to base.
I. With efficiency and daring, our brave eagles shot down four enemy fighters in a dogfight north and south of Ahvaz. They were seen to be on fire. All our aircraft returned safely to base.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 81 killed, 4 fighter planes shot down, and 6 tanks, 2 vehicles, 3 guns, 4 stockpiles of hardware and 4 observation posts destroyed.

II. Our losses: Seven martyrs in all sectors.

No 534

JN261717 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Communique No. 534 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 26 November 1981]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Following are the results of our valiant armed forces' activities last night and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. An enemy concentration was sighted in the Mimak area in front of forward units in Sayf Sa'd. Our units pounded the enemy, killing eight and destroying two vehicles, one stockpile of hardware and two observation posts.
B. Nine were killed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area.
C. Seven were killed and one vehicle and one gun were destroyed in the Gilan-e Gharb area.
D. Six were killed and one vehicle and one stockpile of hardware were destroyed in the Abadan area.
E. Four were killed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area.
F. Two were killed and two tanks were destroyed in the Shush area.
G. Two were killed in the Dezful area.
H. Two were killed in the Nowsud area.
I. One vehicle was destroyed in the Ahvaz area.
J. Our brave fighter planes today razed Persian enemy targets in the southern sector of the operational theater, inflicting grave losses in life and equipment. Tongues of fire were seen rising from the targets by our ground units, our planes returned safely to base.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 40 killed and 2 tanks, 5 vehicles, 1 gun, 2 stockpiles of hardware and 2 observation posts destroyed.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: six martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: one tank and two vehicles were damaged.

PAPERS REGRET POSTPONEMENT OF ARAB SUMMIT

JN260812 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Press review]

[Text] The 12th Arab summit conference, which the Arabs had expected to accomplish a great deal, ended suddenly in the Moroccan city of Fes last night after only one session. This news report, disseminated by news agencies throughout the world, shook the sincere feelings and hearts that wish this nation every success in overcoming its differences. This subject was discussed by the Jordanian papers this morning.

Under the headline: "A Call To Overcome the Shock," AR-RA'Y writes: The Fes summit did not continue for more than one session, after which the conference was postponed until further notice. What happened obviously and regrettably means that Arab differences have aborted the conference before the conference could overcome these differences. It also suggests that an Arab minority is seeking to sabotage the summit and strike at the concept of Arab solidarity so that the Arab summit and solidarity can be replaced by axes and alliances with foreign forces, a move regarded as an unacceptable setback by the Arab nation's masses -- masses which do not absolve those responsible for it.

The Moroccan monarch said that the postponement of the conference was due to the gravity and seriousness of the topics it was supposed to discuss after having ended its study of the Lebanese issue and having unanimously approved the Arab foreign ministers' recommendations. What is meant by grave and serious topics is the Palestinian cause and the Saudi plan concerning it. We believe that this should in fact have been an incentive not to postpone the conference but to adopt a unified stand to deal with these topics.

The end of the Fes summit conference is unquestionably painful, but it will not be the end of the Arab march and Arab cause. Despite the abortion of the conference, neither pessimism nor despair should overcome the Arab quarters that can do something to contain the complications that have arisen. These quarters should exert maximum efforts so that no more harm can be inflicted on the Arab status quo. Such efforts will undoubtedly require a great deal of courage and perseverance, but these are now indispensable.

We do not deny that what has happened to the Fes summit is a loss for all the Arabs. Nevertheless, we are not among the desperate, but call for drawing appropriate lessons because the challenges facing the Arabs make it incumbent on them to renew their efforts for unifying the Arab ranks, as this is the way to avert dangers and secure rights.

AR-RA'Y concludes: King Husayn yesterday reminded the Arab leaders of the importance of preserving Arab heritage, charter and rights. This will perhaps be an incentive to overcome the shock and rebuild Arab ranks as soon as possible.

Under the headline "We Are Still Hopeful," AD-DUSTUR says: Whatever is said to justify ending the Arab summit conference following its opening session cannot alleviate the bitterness and grief suffered by millions of the sons of the Arab nation who had pinned high hopes on this meeting.

Despite the existence of differences and disparities in viewpoints, it was not expected that matters would reach such a head and thus grieve the nation, whose dearest and most precious hopes were hard hit. All the former summit conferences were also held at a time when differences and divisions prevailed. However, the Arab rulers' wisdom always resulted in giving priority to the pan-Arab interest and reaching a minimum of Arab understanding and solidarity in confronting developments, events and challenges.

AD-DUSTUR adds: While feeling bitter and sensing the gravity of such an occurrence, we still hope, along with King Hassan II, that the Arab kings and leaders will be able to agree on the date of the new summit as soon as possible so that the confidence of the citizens throughout the Arab homeland will be restored.

Indeed, events do not wait, nor do events stop. They follow one after another with amazing speed, and thus Arab stands should be neither inflexible nor frozen for any reason whatsoever.

AD-DUSTUR concluded: We hope that contacts and consultations among the leaders will begin immediately so as to overcome all the reasons that led to ending this conference so painfully. Such an ending will have its negative impact in both the Arab and international arenas if an agreement to convene the new summit is not reached as soon as possible. We must all keep before our eyes our responsibilities to God, history and future generations.

Postsummit Period

JN270842 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0505 GMT 27 Nov 81

[Press review]

[Text] As our nation recovered from the 1967 defeat and achieved victory in the Al-Karamah battle in 1968 and the Ramadan war in 1973, it is capable of overcoming other critical and dangerous falls in its march, the last of which was the suspension of the Arab summit in Fes. The current Arab situation does not call for despair or despondency. The one who takes something as a good omen will find good. This was the subject of our newspapers' editorials this morning.

Under the headline "Be optimistic and You Will Get Good Results," AD-DUSTUR writes: The question on every tongue in the Arab homeland and world circles focuses on two points: What really happened at the Fes summit, and how will its tragic end influence the future of Arab relations and the Arab and international attitude toward the Arab-Israeli conflict?

We want to believe that the summit was postponed to give ample time for consultations and careful study of the important issues submitted to it so that decisive decisions can be adopted. This would reassure Arab citizens and strengthen their confidence in their nation and this nation's ability to overcome what happened in Fes with more cohesion, solidarity and determination to restore the usurped rights. However, this hope does not erase our concern that Israel will exploit extensively what has happened at the summit. The phenomenon of Arab disruption has given Israel ample opportunity to tighten its grip on the Arab citizens in the occupied territory and force them to accept the capitulatory solutions which serve its objectives. It has also given it a pretext to say that the Arabs do not want peace and that they are continuing to work to bring about its destruction. By doing this, Israel seeks to win the compassion of foreign states and employ this compassion in implementing its aggressive schemes and aims.

Despite all that has happened, the current Arab situation does not necessarily call for pessimism or despair. The Arab nation has passed through graver and worse crisis since the 1967 disaster. Despite disasters, weakness and division, the Arab nation has always been able to recover, gather its strength and continue its march toward the attainment of its aims.

AD-DUSTUR concluded: As we recovered from the 1967 defeat and achieved the Al-Karamah victory and the Ramadan victory in 1973, we still pin our hopes on our ability to overcome these critical days regardless of the negative aspects hampering our joint march.

Under the headline "What Follows the Fes Summit," AR-RA'Y says: After the cancellation, or postponement, of the Fes summit, it is not strange to be inundated by a flood of analyses and reverberations differing in content and ranging from objectivity to gloating, perplexity to despair. Naturally, such analyses and reverberations would be beneficial if the Arabs knew how to read their significance.

What is important is for Arabs not to drown in a dilemma. It is necessary for them to to move expeditiously both on the pan-Arab and international levels to achieve the following goals:

1. Prevent efforts to exploit the event by means of propaganda campaigns carried out among the Arab sides, thus adhering to the Amman summit resolutions banning such campaigns.

2. Seriously proceed to bridge the gaps that prevented good preparation for the Fes summit before its convocation, which, in turn, led to the breakup of the conference at its first session.

3. Instill conviction in the Arabs' minds that the summit institution should continue to exist and be safeguarded and that the concept of Arab solidarity should not be violated either through Arab axes or through alliances with foreign forces.

4. Entrench a commitment to the effect that participation in the summit must be on the level of the Arab leaders -- kings, amirs and presidents -- and not on the level of these leaders' representatives simply for the sake of evading censure.

5. Agree that any plan proposed to the summit must enjoy Arab unanimity in advance, irrespective of the state proposing such a plan.

6. Prevent the occurrence of negative international repercussions as a result of the Fes summit's suspension, particularly with regard to the European Community.

7. Prevent any foreign interference from exploiting such a suspension in the interest of any foreign force.

8. Entrench the conviction internationally that what occured in Fes must not be considered an attestation in favor of the Camp David course.

AR-RA'Y concludes: The Fes summit was a turning point on the path of the Arab march. Perhaps such a turning point will be a lesson that will serve as an incentive to the Arabs to measure up to challenges they are facing.

AL-WAZZAN MAKES STATEMENT FOLLOWING FES SUMMIT

NC250315 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Text] This evening, upon the conclusion of the Fes summit's first session, the Lebanese journalists met with Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and talked with him about the session's topics related to Lebanon. Herewith, we present the following statements by Prime Minister al-Wazzan.

[Begin recording] [Question] Mr Prime Minister, now that the summit has ended the way it ended, it seems that Lebanon was the winner in this conference. However, it is feared that Lebanon will be the loser in that it would pay a price for the way the Arab summit ended.

[Answer] I do not like questions that advocate pessimism in advance. It is not a question of winners or losers or fear of repercussions. What is important is that we are carrying out our duty, serving our country and doing our best to bring benefit to this country. As you recall, we had urgently requested the convocation of a special summit to discuss the Lebanese question. It seems that events did not go our way and, therefore, the Lebanese question was put on the agenda of the Fes conference as an alternative to the conference we had requested. However, these circumstances helped put the Lebanese question on the agenda of the summit's first session. In this session, President Sarkis outlined the issue of southern Lebanon and pointed out the sufferings of the south and the perils inherent therein. We are afraid lest another eruption take place there. We are also apprehensive of the effects of this situation in the south on the situation in all of Lebanon. Lebanon insists that the Arabs bear their responsibilities with regard to the south since the south is an Arab responsibility -- in addition to its being Lebanon's responsibility [words indistinct].

The meeting of the Arab kings and leaders was preceded by a debate of the [Lebanese] issue during the foreign ministers' meeting held 2 days ago and in which the ministers approved the Lebanese working paper. This working paper was adjusted somehow -- but not with regard to matters of crucial importance. Thus, today's meeting found it easy to approve these recommendations which were profoundly studied by the foreign ministers and unanimously approved by them. Today, these recommendations were also unanimously approved during the summit of the Arab leaders and kings.

If you insist on using the words "winners" and "losers," I would say that Lebanon has gained in that it had outlined its case and convinced the Arab kings and leaders of its case and, thus, they approved what Lebanon requested. Now we have to implement [these recommendations]. Winning would be inherent in implementing these recommendations, in carrying them out in moving toward finding solutions, in rescuing Lebanon and also in our own internal accord that will ensure the right atmosphere for making Lebanon live a healthy life in all respects. This is the real gain -- if one can say so.

As for losses, I don't want to mention them as long as they are merely a possible way of thinking. We must bear in mind -- and you, the questioner, have already thought along these lines -- that we must strive to make such possibilities unlikely, nay, to thwart them decisively.

[Question] Thank you, Mr Prime Minister.

[Answer] Not at all. [end recording]

KHADDAM RETURNS FROM MOROCCAN SUMMIT IN FES

JN262020 Damascus SANA in Arabic 2015 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Excerpt] Damascus, 26 Nov (SANA) -- 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, returned to Damascus at 2130 today after heading the Syrian Arab delegation to the 12th Arab summit conference which began in Fes yesterday and was postponed until a future date.

Khaddam and the accompanying delegation were seen off at Fes airport this afternoon by the Moroccan minister of tourism and other Moroccan and Arab League officials.

RADIO COMMENTS ON SUMMIT'S POLARIZING IMPACT

JN251453 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Arab summit conference which will begin today in Fes, Morocco, is polarizing great international and Arab attention for several reasons. One reason is that this summit is being held at a critical time for the Middle East and under bad Arab circumstances, similar to those prevailing before the ninth Baghdad summit. Furthermore, the Zionist and imperialist enemy is launching an intensive campaign to fragment Arab ranks from within and is resorting to threats, terror, pressure and military bases.

Another reason is that those wagering on divisions in the Arab world and on Arab differences fabricated during preparations for the conference, a psychological and propaganda war, intimate that the Arabs are actually divided on how far to retreat before the Israeli enemy and U.S.-Israeli conditions for achieving a settlement in the region, and that the issue of retreat is settled; the only argument is over whether Arab recognition of Israel should be presented on a gold or a silver platter, and whether this recognition should be accompanied by acceptance of a so-called secure border deep inside the occupied Arab territories neighboring Palestine or not.

However, those falling all over themselves to spread an atmosphere of failure before and during the conference have ignored, or rather, intentionally ignored, the purport of As-Sadat's fall in Cairo, the meaning of As-Sadat's abortive experience with Israel and the United States, the dimensions of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestinian issue's great significance to all Arab sides.

The Arabs have often differed and may also differ in the future on many issues. However, the Palestinian issue, the Arab nation's pan-Arab issue, is greater than Arab differences, individual judgments and even governments, since it is the issue of the present, fate, future, dignity, life, territory and rights of all the Arab nation's masses from the Ocean to the Gulf.

As-Sadat fell like others before him, as a punishment for relinquishing the Palestinian issue and pan-Arab commitment to this issue. Those who imagined that As-Sadat's treason would be transformed into an acceptable course in the Arab arena were surprised by the Arab agreement during the Baghdad summit to reject the Camp David accords and all of As-Sadat's treasonous course. Indeed, ever since the Baghdad summit, the Camp David accords were in a stalemate, entering a tunnel of paralysis and impotence and an inevitable black fate. Thus, every course that complements, is similar to or parallel to As-Sadat's course is doomed to failure in the Arab arena. The Baghdad and Tunis summits issued unanimous and obligatory Arab resolutions denouncing such a course and any similar course and stressing the need to work to abort the Camp David accords and all that is based on them.

Thus any hopes which the Zionist-U.S. enemy might entertain that some Arab sides will relinquish commitments to the pan-Arab issue and such goals as liberating the occupied territory and regaining their usurped rights will be aborted.

The Arab foreign ministers who met in Fes approved the Syrian working paper, which is a positive sign, since this paper puts the horse before the cart instead of behind it and entrenches pan-Arab priorities and responsibilities in the Arab conflict with the Israeli enemy.

The Arab nation's masses, which ended the Camp David course and paralyzed the As-Sadat regime's movement and influence on the Arab arena, look up to the Fes conference just as they looked up to the Baghdad conference, expecting the former to affirm the pan-Arab commitment to the Palestinian issue and the previous summit resolutions and not to retreat before the enemy.

Just as the Palestinian issue has always been greater than all secondary and peripheral differences, so this issue will be greater than any other issue at the Fes conference.

TISHRIN EXAMINES ARAB WORLD DIVISIONS

JN260943 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 26 Nov 81

[From the press review]

[Text] In a commentary headlined "What Does the Arab Situation Require," TISHRIN asserts that there is near unanimity in the Arab arena that the Arab situation is unsatisfactory, if not on the verge of collapse, and that Arab relations are not exactly at their best.

Recently, objective and fabricated factors have intertwined, resulting in the present situation, which does not constitute a strengthening and bolstering factor for the struggle to achieve liberation and regain Arab Palestinian national rights. On the other hand, this situation does not constitute grounds for defeatism, bargaining or capitulation -- the first steps along the As-Sadat path.

Each Arab side must work to correct the Arab situation as it deems fit. Thus, these sides will either reach common denominators accepted by the Arab masses; or division will increase and deepen, while trends in the arena will show their true nature and a conflict will result among them that will determine the course of development in the Arab arena and the method that must be used to reach declared goals.

TISHRIN asserts that conflict is not new in the Arab arena, adding that such a conflict took place with As-Sadat's regime -- which alleged that the United States has the cards for achieving a solution in the region and that the United States is the only side that can apply pressure on Israel and force it to withdraw and accept a settlement that includes something about returning the occupied territory and something about Palestinian rights. This regime also alleged that accepting shelter under the U.S. eagle's wing will make the U.S. Government give up its complete bias toward Israel and against the Arabs, if not resulting in U.S. bias in favor of the Arabs.

However, all these allegations were naturally aborted and burned out in the course of practical experience. Indeed, nothing of these allegations is left that can either stand on its own or be negotiable, not to mention their lack of potential as a base for an enduring practical policy.

Anwar as-Sadat's end -- irrespective of the many details, explanations and interpretations -- is an end to an abortive course that was hostile to the Arab masses aspirations, pan-Arab and regional interests, dignity, history and traditions.

Reviewing the experiment of As-Sadat -- who gave the United States all that can be given up by any ruler in the form of concessions, subservience, submissiveness, retreat and relinquishment of pan-Arab and national interests -- clearly shows that retreating in the face of the United States does not place the Arabs on the path of progress toward achieving the initial pan-Arab goals, primarily liberating Arab territory occupied in 1967 and guaranteeing the Palestinian people's national rights, including their right to determine their own fate, return to their homeland and establish their national state on Palestinian soil.

TISHRIN states that As-Sadat's experience -- which is the most any traitor to his nation can do -- and retreat in the face of the United States, and consequently, Israel, did not qualify the traitor to enter through doors of glory. Rather, he entered through doors of treason, ignominy and a known end at the hands of the people.

Although current Arab relations are not comforting, although the United States imposed the Camp David accords and the capitulatory peace treaty, fixed military bases, services and facilities and got bases and facilities in the region, the outcome of the past few years in the region is also not in the interest of the United States or Israel.

TISHRIN points out that it is sufficient to recall the fall of the shah's regime in Iran, the fall of Camp David as a course in the Arab region, Afghanistan, Israel's international isolation and the affirmation of the pan-Arab commitment to the Palestinian issue at the Baghdad and Tunis summits and affirmation of this issue as the primary pan-Arab issue and the criterion for gauging pan-Arabism and nationalism in the Arab arena.

The paper states that ever since the first imperialist-Zionist onslaught against the Arab homeland dissipated in the face of the steadfastness of Syria and the other Arab forces committed to the pan-Arab issue, the duty declared by President al-Asad -- namely confronting the Zionist-imperialist onslaught in order to defeat and abort it -- was transformed into a slogan for the Arab masses. The duty of establishing a strategic balance with the enemy and making this an indispensable condition for and a necessary prologue to any discussion on creating the appropriate circumstances for working to establish a just, lasting and comprehensive peace was transformed into a course to which the Arab masses are committed. Indeed, all Arab sides demanded that this course be accepted and that its requirements be met.

TISHRIN concludes that the new imperialist-Zionist onslaught is desperate and stems from the very premise of apprehension and fear based on past lessons. Thus, it should not be confronted by retreat since any step backward will definitely lead to other steps that would, in turn, lead to As-Sadat's course. Rather, it should be confronted by more Arab steadfastness, further commitment to the Palestinian issue and the resolutions of the Rabat, Baghdad and Tunis summits, and working to mobilize the Arab potentials in the battle arenas in order to establish the necessary strategic balance with the enemy, considering that such a balance is the sole realistic foundation for creating the appropriate circumstances for discussion of a just and lasting peace and reaching solutions that guarantee for the Arabs the minimum requirements accepted by the Arab masses.

ATH-THAWRAH: BEGIN HINTS AT AGGRESSION

JN260732 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 26 Nov 81

[From the press review]

[Text] A commentary in today's ATH-THAWRAH points out that Zionist terrorist Begin has again issued aggressive threats against Syria, hinting that an aggression will be launched, if the Syrian missiles are not withdrawn from Al-Biqa' soon.

Begin's threats and their allusion to aggression only reflect the extent of the frustration and apprehension afflicting the Zionist enemy and the imperialist forces supporting it now that all the conspiratorial plots against the Arab nation have collapsed thanks to Syria's stand and its firm confrontation of these plots.

ATH-THAWRAH adds: When Begin issues such new threats to launch aggression and paves the way for heating up the situation and escalating tension at this particular time, he shows the bankruptcy of the imperialist and Zionist forces and their inability to influence Syria, undermine its steadfastness or weaken its stand. Indeed, this stand stems from a firmly principled strategy that gives primary consideration to the possibilities of an imperialist-Zionist aggression while at the same time intensifying efforts to guarantee the prerequisites for confronting and repulsing such aggression. Syria is aware that since the aggression took place by force and is continuing to be accompanied by force, it will only be removed by force.

ATH-THAWRAH asserts that the Zionist enemy and forces supporting it are well aware that Syrian defensive missiles in Lebanon constitute precautionary measures adopted to safeguard the Arab Deterrent Forces, which had been subjected to Israeli aggression, and to prevent the Zionist enemy from continuing to strike at the masses of our Arab Lebanese and Palestinian peoples.

Syria's pan-Arab commitment is a strategic stand that is indifferent to threats. Indeed, this stand rejects bargaining or retreat. It is premised on a firm and principled policy that gives primacy to the sublime Arab interest and to safeguarding the pan-Arab issue from hostile conspiratorial schemes.

The paper concludes: It is natural for Begin to be apprehensive and for Washington to feel frustrated when the conspiratorial schemes against the Arab region collapse one after the other and when the Syrian stand is transformed into a course of struggle to which the Arab masses throughout the Arab homeland are committed. These masses are led by the people of our occupied homeland -- whose chants are heard as their revolutionary uprising spreads throughout the occupied homeland. What was taken by force will only be returned by force. What is required of the Arabs to confront the Zionist-U.S. terrorism is to concert their efforts to prepare and develop the Arab intrinsic strength in such a way that it guarantees a change in the balance of power and accomplishes the goal of liberation. This is Syria's course, and all the Arab masses support Syria on the path toward bolstering steadfastness, developing the confrontation and securing the prerequisites for victory in the fateful pan-Arab battle.

PDRY LEADER MAKES STOPOVER IN DAMASCUS

JN262134 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Text] At 1945 today, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad [al-Hasani], chairman of the Presidium of the PDRY Supreme People's Council, made a stopover at Damascus International Airport on his return to Aden after participating in the Fes summit conference.

He was welcomed at the VIP lounge at the airport by Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Kasm and had a 1-hour discussion with him. The PDRY leader left Damascus for Aden at 2100. He was seen off by the prime minister and the PDRY and YAR ambassadors and embassy staffers in Damascus.

YEMENI SOCIALIST PARTY DELEGATION ARRIVES

JN262142 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Excerpt] A Yemen Socialist Party [YSP] delegation led by Comrade 'Abd al-Hamid Ahmad Sa'id, deputy secretary of the YSP Central Committee, arrived in Damascus this evening on a visit of several days to Syria, at the invitation of the Ba'th Party National Command.

ROMANIAN MINISTER, DELEGATION HOLD TALKS

JN261848 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Text] 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, today received a delegation headed by Ion Stanescu, Romanian minister of state at the Ministry of Industrial Construction. They discussed economic relations between the two countries, especially the Baniyas refinery, phosphate projects, the Shaykh Sa'd cement factory, and a number of projects being implemented through cooperation between the two countries.

During the meeting, the Romanian minister gave Qaddurah a letter from Gheorghe Oprea, Romanian first deputy prime minister. Qaddurah asked the delegation to convey his greetings to Oprea.

Earlier, Dr 'Abd al-Jabbar ad-Dahhak, minister of oil and natural resources, discussed with the Romanian minister the projects under construction in Syria by Romania, particularly the Baniyas refinery. They also discussed the project for phosphate dehydration, which is expected to be completed before the end of next month and the subject of phosphate (?extraction) and issues related to spare parts. Complete agreement was reached on all issues discussed.

BULGARIAN DEPUTY CHAIRMAN ARRIVES IN DAMASCUS

JN241540 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1530 GMT 24 Nov 81

[Text] Damascus, 24 Nov (SANA) -- A Bulgarian friendship delegation arrived here today headed by Georgi Yordanov, deputy chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers.

In an arrival statement, Yordanov praised the strong and developing relations between Bulgaria and Syria. He hailed the militant role played by Syria under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad to consolidate the anti-imperialism and anti-Zionism front.

Rif'at al-Asad, Yordanov Speak

JN251157 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0850 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Text] Damascus, 25 Nov (SANA) -- The Syrian-Bulgarian friendship society last night held a ceremony on Bulgaria's 1300th anniversary attended by Dr Rif'at al-Asad, member of the Regional Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and chairman of the Syrian-Bulgarian friendship society, and Georgi Yordanov, deputy chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers, and the delegation accompanying him as well as members of the friendship society.

Dr Rif'at al-Asad delivered a speech in which he praised Bulgarian-Syrian friendship and cooperation and the common struggle which both peoples, led by Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and Todor Zhivkov, are waging against imperialism, Zionism and reaction.

In his speech, the deputy chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers hailed Syria's steadfast stands in resisting imperialist and Zionist plans and fighting for the liberation of the occupied Arab territories and supporting the Palestine question and liberation issues in the world. At the end of the ceremony, Georgi Yordanov decorated Dr Rif'at al-Asad with the Bulgarian Medal of Friendship. He also bestowed medals on other members of the friendship society.

Delegation Departs

JN262144 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Text] The Bulgarian friendship delegation led by Georgi Yordanov, deputy chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers, left Damascus at 2100 today at the end of a 3-day visit to Syria. In a departure statement to SANA, Yordanav praised His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad's wise leadership and Arab Syria's struggle against the schemes of imperialism, Zionism, and reaction. The Bulgarian friendship delegation visited Palmyra this morning as well as the Euphrates dam.

BULGARIAN TRANSPORTATION MINISTER DEPARTS 20 NOV

JN201724 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 20 Nov 81

[Text] Bulgarian Transportation Minister Vasil Tasanov and his delegation left Damascus today following a week long visit to Syria during which he signed a protocol on sea, land and air transport cooperation. He was seen off at Damascus International Airport by Transport Minister Muharram Tayyarah, his aides and a number of Syrian and Bulgarian experts and technicians.

SENIOR OFFICIAL ON ARAB SUMMIT 'FAILURE'

TA261838 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Text] A senior Israeli offical says the Arab summit failure is a real setback for Saudi Arabia. Riyadh had launched a major campaign for the approval of its Middle East plan but the rest of the Arab world refused to accept the Saudis as their leaders. The Saudi failure was a real measure of Riyadh's status and political clout in the Arab world. At the same time, it is still too early to say whether Prince Fahd's plan is now dead. The Israeli official did not believe the Saudis would give up easily, but it would now be more difficult for Western leaders to promote it. The Israeli official went on to say that Egypt may also see that the Arabs are divided and that Egypt has followed a more consistent policy than other Arab countries.

MA'ARIV: BEGIN WILL URGE REJECTION OF EEC ROLE

TA261222 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 26 Nov 81 pp 1, 15

[Report by Yosef Harif, Ilan Kfir and Refa'el Man]

[Excerpts] "In its meeting this Sunday [29 November] I will recommend that the Cabinet reject the participation of the military units from France, Italy Britain and Holland in the Multinational Froce and Observers [MFO] under the present circumstances." Prime Minister Begin told this to MA'ARIV this morning, adding: "I am prepared to shoulder full responsibility for this."

According to Mr Begin, all the "conditions" the four European countries attached to the announcement on their readiness to participate in the MFO contradict the Camp David accords.

MA'ARIV correspondent in London Y. Finkelstein reports: 'Usamah al-Baz, the Egyptian president's adviser for Foreign Policy affairs, told MA'ARIV yesterday that "If Israel rejects the participation of the European units in the MFO this will be a negative and unnecesary development which will not encourage the European countries to adopt a positive stance."

In an exclusive interview to MA'ARIV, given at the Egyptian Embassy in London, Al-Baz said: "We have struggled to get the Europeans to reveal a more constructive approach. If they receive negative feedback from Israel, this will be their last initiative.

Shamir Rules Out Flexibility

TA261315 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Text] After a consultation with the prime minister and the defense minister, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir stated that there is no room for Israeli flexibility regarding the participation of EEC members in the Sinai multinational force. Even though there are differences of opinion with the United States on this issue, there is no pressure being exerted by the United States. Mr Shamir said that the Cabinet would decide 29 November on Israel's stand on this question. Prime Minister Menahem Begin has already said that he will recommend rejecting the Europeans' participation. Mr Shamir, who will meet tomorrow in Washington with Secretary of State Haig, stated after today's consultations that the issue of the Multinational Force and Observers would constitute the focal point of the talk, although it would also cover the totality of relations between the two countries.

Details on Consultations

TA261536 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Report by political correspondent Gad Becker]

[Text] Israel's stand on Europe's participation in the Multinational Force and Observers [MFO] is unequivocal, the foreign minister said today after holding consultations with the prime minister and the defense minister. The Europeans' conditions are unacceptable, and we shall reiterate this to the U.S. secretary of state, even though he has already heard this from us, Shamir said. He confirmed that there are differences of opinion between Israel and the United States on this matter. Replying to a question, he added he had not expected this kind of urgent invitation from the secretary of state.

There is no doubt that Haig will try to convince Shamir to agree to the participation of the Europeans. The United States may promise to exert additional pressure on the European countries to get them to moderate their stand. The conclusion after this morning's consultations in Jerusalem was that Israel will not initiate any approach to Europe, since Lord Carrington stated explicitly that there is no intention of altering the terms that have already been presented. Beside that, official circles in Jerusalem added this morning, Israel has no intention of assuming any risks whatsoever given that what is involved is a few dozen British troops.

The foreign minister, who leaves tonight for Washington, will not initiate any discussion there regarding the strategic cooperation agreement. That is a matter for the defense minister, to deal with, and he may go to Washington on 29 November. If the subject does come up tomorrow, Shamir will reiterate the Israeli position. In today's consultations with the prime minister, it was decided, among other things, to send the team engaged in drawing up the strategic memorandum, headed by Maj Gen Avraham Tamir, back to Washington. The team is going with the aim of making progress in the negotiations with a view to the signing of a memorandum. Israel has already explained its stand to the United States, whereby the document to be signed must be broader in nature than the proposed U.S. draft that has reached Jerusalem. In the light of the reports from Washington on the talks, a final decision will be made about whether Defense Minister Sharon will visit Washington for talks in the Pentagon.

Eytan: No MFO, No Withdrawal

TA261426 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Text] Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan stated this afternoon, on behalf of the prime minister, that if the Multinational Force and Observers [MFO] is not set up, Israel will not withdraw from Sinai in accordance with the Camp David agreements. Speaking at the Israel-America Chamber of Commerce, the chief of staff said that the MFO in a guarantee that the Camp David accords will be implemented, but not a guarantee of Israel's existence. He stressed that the UN would not have any influence on expelling the MFO from the region; however, countries sending troops to the force could remove them if they decided to.

Lieutenant General Eytan confirmed that Israeli Air Force planes had photographed the Tabuk base in Saudi Arabia. The photographs verified things Israel had known, but also showed new things which could be known only from aerial photographs. The chief of staff said Saudi Arabia is building a gigantic base at Tabuk.

With respect to the calling up of reservists who are abroad, the chief of staff said that the IDF has an accurate list of reservists, and knows how to get them back if needed. He said that these soldiers, most of whom are residing in the United States, are willing to pay their own way to Israel for training; the state would not finance their flight.

Haig Meets With 'Evron

TA251733 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 25 Nov 81

[From the Evening Newsreel]

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig has expressed grave concern about the situation that will prevail in the Middle East if Israel indeed rejects the participation of the four European countries in the Sinai multinational force. Haig met today with Israeli Ambassador to Washington Efrayim 'Evron and we are now switching over to the Washington State Department to our corespondent Shalom Qital:

Alexander Haig, in the course of a conversation lasting 90 minutes, tried to convince Efrayim 'Evron that Israel should agree to the participation of the four European countries -- Britain, France, Italy and Holland -- in the multinational force. The United States too is not happy about the formulae of the four European countries in particular and of the Common Market countries in general. The United States also believes they should support the Camp David accords and it does not accept the reservations accompanying their consent to take part in the multinational force. However, Alexander Haig believes that it will be very difficult to set up and operate the multinational force without the participation of these countries, and that without this participation, an undermining of the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty and its implementation in general can be expected. He was trying to explain that the United States will view this as a grave deterioration in the situation and that Israel should agree despite the numerous reservations it has about the European stance.

Efrayim 'Evron repeated to Haig the Israeli position that was already expressed in Jerusalem in a talk between the prime minister and U.S. Ambassador Lewis. It seems that a dispute may be expected between the United States and Israel here. As a matter of fact this dispute is already at its height with the United States trying to convince Israel to agree to the participation of the European countries in the multinational force. For the time being Israel is not prepared to accept this participation.

The issue of Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon's visit was also raised in the meeting, although relative to the time allocated to the multinational force issue this one was minor. The United States is anticipating Ari'el Sahron's visit. The U.S. administration views the strategic cooperation as a gradual development and not as a conclusion that should immediately sum up all points. Sharon's visit is viewed as a starting point from which it is possible to move into negotiations and develop the cooperation in the future.

In any event Alexander Haig expects to meet Ari'el Sharon, after Sharon spends a whole day meeting Caspar Weinberger and other Pentagon senior officials. The next day, he is expected to meet with Alexander Haig. This is Shalom Qital from the State Department.

BEGIN AND PERES DISCUSS MFO, SHAMIR TRIP

TA260818 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Text] The Alignment will support the government if it opposes the participation of four EEC countries in the Multinational Force and Observers [MFO] if they do not retreat from their position of tying their participation to the Venice declaration.

This was stated by opposition leader Shim'on Peres to correspondents following a meeting with Prime Minister Menahem Begin. Our correspondent reports that the two have decided to wait until Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir returns from the United States before deciding if there is any basis for a common position. Our correspondent also reports that Menahem Begin and Shim'on Peres discussed other political issues. The chairman of the Labor Party refused to give any details, but our correspondent says that they discussed developments in Israel's foreign relations, not a national unity government.

Tomorrow Minister Shamir will meet with his U.S. counterpart, Alexander Haig. It has also been reported that Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir is already scheduled to return to Israel on Sunday to report to the government about his talks before a decision is made about the participation of the four EEC countries in the MFO. That participation will be the main issue to be discussed in the talks. The United States is very much afraid of Israel's opposition to the participation of the four countries.

Peres Comments

TA261202 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 26 Nov 81

[From the Midday Newsreel]

[Text] Prior to the prime minister's meeting with the foreign minister in preparation for the latter's trip to the United States, Mr Begin also tried to get the backing of the main opposition. Thus, this morning he met in his office with Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres, and as with the Saudi Arabian plan our correspondent, Razi Barqay, reports that here, too, a consensus was obtained.

[Barqay] The contacts between the government and the Alignment will be frozen until after the return of the foreign minister from the United States. Begin and Peres agreed that there is no point in coming out with a joint announcement before clarifications in Washington. However, it now appears that the Alignment will again join a national consensus. It is inconveivable, Shim'on Peres said, that the Europeans should set before us unacceptable conditions.

[Begin recording] [Peres] Any attempt to negate or to deviate from the Camp David agreements is unacceptable to us -- that is, to the Labor Party itself. We reject the introduction of the European clauses calling for a retreat to the 1967 borders and the establishment of a Palestinian state; and, in my view, the European reference to the Venice agreements -- in which there is an appeal for the incorporation of the PLO and a call for self-determination, which means the establishment of a Palestinian state -- was superfluous and totally complicates the issue.

[Question] Would it be correct to say that there are no substantive differences of opinion between you and prime minister over this issue, because this is also the government's view?

[Peres] On three issues there has always been a noticeable closeness, just as there are differences of opinion over other issues. These are: guaranteeing freedom of shipping, the negation of a Palestinian state, the negation of a return to the 1967 borders and not regarding the PLO as a negotiating partner.

[Question] Mr Peres, this is the second time over the last few weeks that you have granted the prime minister's request for a consensus. Is there any change here in the strategy of your party, not to be a genuine opposition?

[Peres] No, but we will not change our positions in order to be an opposition. I am also not prepared to propose to my party that it change any positions whatsoever in order for a consensus to be formed. By the way, there is no retreat from our strategy.

On most things we are an opposition, there is no consensus on most things; but on matters of foreign affairs and security, if there is a meeting place between the two positions, we will not conceal that, either. [End recording]

[Barqay] It was, therefore, possible to assume that if the government finally uses a veto on the Europeans' participation in the force, the Alignment faction will then back it. Such a decision, by the way, will not jeopardize the Multinational Force and Observer's [MFO] mission, because both the Alignment and the government think that U.S. participation in the MFO is the only guarantee of its success.

SHAMIR DEPARTS FOR U.S. TALKS WITH HAIG

TA270739 Jerusalem POST in English 27 Nov 81 pp 1, 2

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir flew to Washington last night to tell Secretary of State Alexander Haig that Israel is rejecting the co-option of four EEC countries to the multinational Sinai force on the terms that they have announced.

Jerusalem feels it is on a collision course with Washington over the participation in the force of Britain, France, Holland and Italy. And the confrontation coincides with a crucial phase in preparations for the signing of a memorandum of agreement between Israel and the U.S. on strategic cooperation, one that some Cabinet members view with disappointment at the restricted cooperation envisaged by the U.S.

Uri Porat, Premier Menahem Begin's media adviser, told reporters yesterday that Israel would not let Europe dictate to it and would not let Britain undermine the Camp David framework just for a handful of soldiers added to the Sinai force.

Shamir's message to Haig was worked out at a three-way meeting in the prime minister's office in Jerusalem between Begin and Defence Minister Ari'el Sharon.

The foreign minister postponed his flight from yesterday morning to last night to have Sharon in on the top-level consultation after the defence minister's return from a trip abroad.

Officials in Jerusalem said that Shamir would not discuss the strategic cooperation document while in Washington.

Cables reaching Jerusalem from Washington yesterday explained that Ambassador Efrayim 'Evron had heard from Haig that Israel should be less sensitive to the European declarations and more aware of the benefits accruing from widening the basis of the force.

Shamir is expected to tell Haig, when they meet this afternoon at the secretary's invitation, that acceptance of European conditions could snowball politically with regard to the future of Judaea and Samaria, and might also have negative repercussions on Israel's military security.

Shamir is expected to ask Haig to press the European governments to amend their declarations on participation, as a condition for Israel accepting them.

As the confrontation on the issue between Israel and the U.S. has drawn closer, and the possibility of American displeasure, or even pressure, has grown more likely, Jerusalem policy-makers have started adding functional considerations, linked to the European stand to the political considerations which have been thrashed out daily in the media.

Some Jerusalem policy-makers have begun noting that the European contingents can never be as reliable, vis-a-vis Israel's vital interests as contingents from the U.S., Colombia and Fiji, because of the equivocal policies of the European governments which have been pandering to the Arabs.

A situation might easily arise over freedom of navigation in the Straits of Tiran in which one or all of the European governments would regard participation in the force as conflicting with its own interests in the Arab world, the POST was told.

If Jerusalem judges solely by Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser's statement that his country's contingent commander might conceivably have to consult his government before obeying an order from the Sinai force commander, then the reliability of the European contingents would be far more in question.

The governments of Fiji and Colombia have already committed themselves to keeping contingents in the Sinai force for a 5-year period, but they have reserved the right to withdraw contingents on reasonable notice, giving time for replacement countries to be found. Some policy-makers in Jerusalem would not like to envisage a situation in which European governments withdraw their contingents because of some as yet unpredictable crisis in the Arab world.

Jerusalem sees the present European vacillation and equivocation as an ominous precursor of an unhappy relationship with the four governments involved, in which they could even exploit a threat of withdrawal from the Sinai force for their own ends in the Arab world. There is no such apprehension with regard to participants such as Fiji and Colombia, and virtually none with regard to Uruguay, Australia and New Zealand.

GAZA CIVILIAN ADMINISTRATION TO BEGIN IN DEC

TA260828 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Text] At the beginning of next month a civilian administration will take over in the Gaza Strip, as it has done in Judaea and Samaria. It will apparently be headed by the military governor of the Gaza Strip, Brig Gen Yosef Lunz. A special headquarters, subordinate to the southern command, will also be established to deal with routine security matters. Our correspondent, Arye Gus, reports that the structure of districts in the Gaza Strip, Judaea and Samaria has not yet been determined and is to be discussed next month. Our correspondent also reports that Gaza Mayor Rashad ash-Shawwa has objected strongly to civilian administration, describing it as a continuation of the conquest in civilian clothing. However, many inhabitants of the Gaza Strip are serving in key posts in the administration, including 17 directors-general of the government offices.

ONE KILLED, TWO HURT IN ARMY CAMP BLAZE

TA261613 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Text] One person -- a passerby from Janin -- was killed and two others were slightly injured when an ammunition dump in Qiryat Hayyim caught fire. Fire engines are now engaged in getting the blaze under control and the explosions have stopped. For about 3 hours the area's residents and the workers in the local factories were unable to leave their homes or shelters. The police ask persons living in the area bordering on the scene of the fire not to leave their homes until further notice. This includes the area of the intersection near the Hutei Hashmal plant, including the Qiryat Hayyim municipal stadium, Hashayish street, the IPC road and the southern neighborhoods of Qiryat Hayyim. The public is also asked to take heed of any shells or suspicious objects and to inform the police about them immediately. The fire broke out at the military installation about 1400 hours and for several hours shells exploded at the ammunition dump.

AFP: BEGIN BREAKS THIGH BONE IN FALL 26 NOV

NC262308 Paris AFP in English 2259 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Text] Jerusalem, 26 Nov (AFP) -- Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin was operated on here tonight after he broke a thigh bone when he fell in his bathroom, Hadassa Hospital Director Schmouel Inchas said.

Mr Pinchas said the operation itself was straightforward, but added that the 68-year-old prime minister would be immobilized for several weeks, as the thigh bones of elderly people were particularly fragile.

Mr Begin has already been hospitalized four times since he took office in 1977, once [word indistinct] a burst blood vessel in the brain which left his sight impaired and three times for heart trouble.

Begin in Excellent Condition

TA270519 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 27 Nov 81

[Text] The prime minister was operated upon last night at the Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem and physicians describe his condition after the operation as excellent. The broken proximal was not put in plaster of paris. The director of the Hadassah Hospital says that Menahem Begin will stay hospitalized for 2 weeks but will be able to function from his bed. He suffers from physical limitations and will have difficulties standing on the damaged leg, but there is no limitation on the amount of work he will be doing from his bed. The next Cabinet session will be chaired by Simha Ehrlich.

U.S. CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE DELEGATION ARRIVES

TA251935 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1910 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Text] Ben-Gurion Airport, 25 Nov -- A delegation of seven members of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives, headed by Congressman Jonathan Bingham, arrived in Israel this evening at the beginning of a study tour to the Middle East where they will also visit Saudi Arabia and Egypt.

The head of the delegation, Mr Bingham who had visited Israel six times in the past, said he is happy to meet Prime Minister Begin and Foreign Minister Shamir again and expressed the hope that following the delegation's talks in Israel they will make a positive report to the Foreign Affairs Committee.

The Foreign Affairs Committee handles everything connected with the U.S. nuclear industry, West-East trade relations, U.S. economic and military aid and U.S. arms sales to foreign countries.

This evening the delegation will be briefed by U.S. Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis and tomorrow the delegation will tour Jerusalem as the guests of Mayor Teddy Kollek and will climb Massadah. On 27 November they will meet with the foreign minister and prime minister.

Mrs Bingham will visit Ashqelon tomorrow where she will participate in the ceremony of dedicating an old-age home in the Bingham family's name.

The delegation was received at the airport by Ambassador Lewis and a representative of the Israeli Foreign Ministry. Before they leave on Friday afternoon they will convene a news conference in Jerusalem.

OAU CONCERNED AT U.S. ROLE IN WESTERN SAHARA

AB261326 Paris AFP in English 1258 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Text] Lagos, 26 Nov (AFP) -- The Organization of African Unity (OAU) Secretariat in Lagos has described a recent visit by a U.S. military delegation to the Western Sahara as a prelude to the introduction of sophisticated military hardware to the conflict, the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) reported.

The agency said that according to a statement issued by the Secretariat, the OAU viewed with the gravest concern attempts by any state outside Africa to intervene in the conflict between Morocco and the Polisario Front in the Moroccan-claimed territory.

The statement appealed to all foreign powers to desist from any action which might tend to exacerbate the situation in the Western Sahara.

It said that what is required in the area now is the cooperation of all parties concerned, and urged interested parties and an international committee on Western Sahara to work to accomplish an OAU mandate to bring about a ceasefire.

MOI DISCUSSES PLANNED 27 NOV CHAD 'MINI' SUMMIT

EA261202 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Excerpt] On the Chadian problem, President Moi, speaking at the Jomo Kenyatta international airport on arrival from Morocco, said a mini OAU summit for heads of state and government from countries sending troops to Chad will be held in Nairobi tomorrow to review the situation.

He revealed that the leaders of Senegal, Chad and Mali and the prime minister of Zaire will be arriving in Nairobi later today to attend the summit.

President Moi thanked the countries which have so far assisted Chad with various kinds of aid, including food and other social amenities. The president regreted that Chad had been plagued with internal problems for the last 15 years and during this period children in that country had seen no happiness, except [as heard] the deaths of their beloved ones. He said it was his sincere hope that the OAU will assist the people of Chad to restore peace and unity, which they desperately need now.

Mobutu Will Not Attend

AB251609 Paris AFP in French 1535 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Text] Kinshasa, 25 Nov (AFP) -- Zairian head of state Gen Mobutu Sese Seko will not attend the summit of heads of state concerned with the sending of an inter-African neutral force to Chad, scheduled to take place in Nairobi on Friday, it was officially confirmed in Kinshasa on Wednesday.

President Mobutu will be represented in this meeting by Nsinga Udjuu, executive secretary of the MPR and first state commissioner, the same sources state.

The absence of the Zairian head of state from the Nairobi summit, which is aimed at defining the setting up and the role of the contingents of the inter-African neutral force, is explained by the tight schedule of General Mobutu, who has to attend a summit of the Economic Community of the Countries of the Great Lakes, grouping Rwanda, Burundi and Zaire, which opens in Gisenyi, Rwanda on 28 and 29 November. He then leaves for the United States where he is expected on 1 December.

Last week, President Mobutu proposed that such a meeting should be held in Kinshasa on 24 and 25 November because of his tight schedule.

Eyadema Will Not Attend

AB270933 Paris AFP in French 0756 GMT 27 Nov 81

[Text] Lome, 27 Nov (AFP) -- Togolese President Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema will not attend the Nairobi summit meeting of countries contributing troops to the inter-African peacekeeping force in Chad, it was announced officially in Lome on Thursday.

Due to his full schedule, the Togolese head of state, who returned home yesterday afternoon form a 3-day official visit to Spain, will be represented by Foreign Minister Akap-Ahianyo.

Togo, Benin, Guinea, Nigeria, Senegal and Zaire are the six countries agreeing in principle to send troops to Chad within the framework of the neutral force. So far, no date has been announced for the departure of the Togolese contingent, observers note. Informed sources state that Lome will not send troops unless its mission has been clearly defined, either by the Nairobi summit or after holding another meeting.

The same sources add that despite the official statements in favor of the sending of the troops to Chad, the feeling in Togo is that only a politically negotiated settlement among the Chadians themselves can bring an end to the tragedy in that country. This solution, the same sources emphasize, should be based on the August 1979 Lagos accords which all the Chadian factions signed.

NIGERIANS TO BE DEPLOYED TO CHAD AFTER MEETING

AB251612 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Text] The minister of external affairs, Prof Ishaya Audu, says the Nigerian contingent to the OAU peacekeeping force in Chad will be deployed after the heads of state summit in Nairobi next Friday.

Professor Audu told newsmen in Lagos today that the reason for the delay in the deployment of Nigerian troops to that country was owing to inadequate arrangements suitable for the operation. He said that speculation that Nigeria was angry with Kenya was aimed at tarnishing the image of the Nigerian Government. Professor Audu stated that the deployment of troops in the territory was purely OAU affair, not that of Nigeria. The minister said that Nigeria was elected to command the peacekeeping force because of her experience in peacekeeping exercise. Professor Audu stated that Nigeria had participated excellently in peacekeeping in Congo, Brazzaville, UNIFIL and Indo-Pakistan, and was of the view that proper planning and an agreement concerning their operation would be beneficial.

ALGERIA

CORRESPONDENT REPORTS ON FES SUMMIT POSTPONEMENT

LD261450 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Unidentified correspondent's report from Fes]

[Excerpts] As is known, yesterday, after one public and one closed session of the 12th Arab summit, conference Chairman King Hassan II surprised pressmen by announcing the postponement of the conference, which is to be completed in Morocco at a date to be fixed by the Arab foreign ministers.

Despite the fact that the Moroccan king did not refer in particular to the points of disagreement among the delegations attending -- points which might be the reason for the postponement -- many observers here in Fes believe that the main and basic difference in the attitudes of the delegations was represented in what has been termed Fahd's Middle East peace with its eight points and three principles. It is the plan which Saudi Arabia, together with other parties, tried to present as an Arab initiative. But it seems that the decision to postpone the conference clearly indicates that this attempt failed.

Consequently, the conference failed to adopt a unanimous resolution on that plan which, according to sources close to the conference, faced sharp opposition by a number of delegations, including the Palestinian delegation and the delegations of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front countries. This is because this plan contains in its clauses -- particularly clause seven -- concessions in the interest of the Zionist enemy, of which this enemy has never dreamed.

This was expressed particularly by Hani al-Hasan, member of the PLO Executive Committee and 'Arafat's personal adviser, in a statement here in Fes. He explained that the reservations expressed by 'Arafat regarding the plan are summed up in the fact that the plan did not mention the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Moreover, this organization rejects point seven of the plan, which stipulates recognition of the right of all the states of the region to live in peace; this implies recognition of Israel. Proceeding from this point, observers see that Israel may regard it as a gain without having to make concessions in return, particularly with regard to the occupied Arab territories.

The postponement has caused a number of questions to be raised by observers. Is the postponement in itself to be regarded a negative or a positive matter? The majority of observers holds the view that the postponement constitutes a positive Arab stance in the interest of the main issue in the Arab-Zionist conflict, namely, the Palestinian issue. It is viewed in this way because this stance is regarded as yet another assertion of an obvious fact, a fact which the Saudi plan tried to ignore and step over, namely, Arab unanimity, which will not allow any decision to be made with regard to the Palestinian issue without the agreement and the will of the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. This has been asserted by the resolutions of the various Arab summits and has been reaffirmed through all international developments in the interest of the Palestinian issue -- first and foremost, the increasing recognition by world public opinion and the international community of the justice of the struggle of the Palestinian people and their legitimate representation by their struggling vanguard, the PLO.

LIBYA

AL-HUMAYDI COMMENTS ON 'FAILURE' OF FES SUMMIT

LD262148 Tripoli JANA in English 1922 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Excerpts] Tripoli, 26 Nov (JANA) -- Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, commander of city militarization, today met with the students of the Teachers' Institute barracks in Gasr bin Gastrir. The students presented him with written a pledge of loyalty to the revolution's leader, stressing their adherence to the Great September Revolution and denouncing imperialist provacations.

He stressed,"The mass society will not be defeated because it represents the revolutionary school led by the thought of Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great 1st September Revolution, as exemplified by the eternal humanitarian dicta of the Green Book. These dicta heralded the era of the masses to save humanity from oppression, exploitation, slavery, wage labour and domination."

Major al-Humaydi added, "Students represent the conscious and intellectual force which could master all forms of weapons. Training on these weapons is now included in the syllabus of schools, institutes and universities. The Libyan Arab people is the only Arab people which truly practices freedom through people's congresses and committees, unions, associations and leagues."

He went on: "The Libyan people is the only people countering America, leader of world terrorism, because it is the people of a deep rooted civilisation and historical glories. One of its aims is to realize the rise of the armed people, an event which will be the definitive victory over the people's and freedom's enemies."

Referring to the region's recent events, he said, "America, leader of international terrorism, is leading a campaign against the Great 1st September Revolution because this revolution represents the living conscience of the Arab nation, its honour, steadfastness and spirit of challenge to plots and because it is leading the dynamic forces sturggling for liberation from the imperialists, and is always saying no to surrender and to summit conferences the decisions of which reach Amercia before the capitals of the people concerned. The Fes summit embodies treason because the Arab nation's in no need for a conference of their excellencies and majesties expressing the desire of America. The Arab nation needs an Arab conference for liberation."

He added, "The Arab nation needs achievements to lift it from backwardness. The Al Fatah Revolution's achievements are an example to be followed. The world probably realizes the extent of the giant achievements realized under the Great 1st September Revolution. Perhaps the latest revolutionary achievement to affirm this is the inauguration of the technological university by the revolution's leader."

He went on, "The resolutions of Arab summits have become laughable for the world, instead of being a source of respect and fear, because they do not represent the Arab nation's conscience. The Fes summit had failed. This failure is a success for the Great Al Fatah Revolution's political line and a success for the revolutionary stands declared by the revolution's leader in his recent speech at the Arab People's Congress. The failure of the summit also affirms that those who attended did not express the Arab people's will for liberation and victory. The failure of the Fes summit is a success for the sincere revolutionary forces and the Arab cause which will boost its hope in victory. The Arab nation is in no need to hear Arab summit resolutions because they are a consolidation of authoritarianism and the continued presence of the imperialist in Arab lands as well as boost for divisions, subservience and imperialist circles. The Arab people has no need for hypocritical embraces and exchange of jaundiced smiles. The Arab people is, in fact, in need for capturing power, wealth and weapons to lead the world in accordance with its will and potential."

He concluded his speech by saying: "The Jamahiriyah (mass) society is the force society, the society of freedom where the people is the master, the possessor of power, wealth and weapons as applied in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah."

BRIEFS

JALLUD, SDAR LEADER -- Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud this afternoon received Brother Mohamed Abd Abdelaziz, secretary general of the Polisario Front and chairman of the SDAR Revolution Command Council. [Text] [Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 1815 GMT 25 Nov 81 LD]

MOROCCO

SOVIET 'ROVING ENVOY' ARRIVES IN CASABLANCA

LD251128 Rabat MAP in Arabic 0900 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Text] Casablanca, 25 Nov (MAP) -- Soviet roving envoy Mikhail Sidenko arrived in Casablanca yesterday for a visit to Morocco, during which he will hold talks with Moroccan officials. The Soviet ambassador said that this visit comes as part of a tour of a number of Arab states to exchange views over certain issues of common interest.

He added that the contacts with Moroccan officials would be extremely important and constructive with regard to the development of the situation in the Middle East on the eve of the Fes summit. He stressed that the peace and stability of this region is of interest to the entire world, including the Soviet Union.

SUDAN

MINISTERS OF NEW CABINET SWORN IN 26 NOV

JN261516 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Text] Khartoum, 26 Nov (SUNA) -- Ministers and ministers of state in the newly formed Cabinet today were sworn in before President Numayri in the presence of Vice President Abel Alier and Vice President and Chief of State Security Department Staff Maj Gen 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib.

President Numayri will address the joint session of the Sudanese Socialist Union and the new Cabinet on Saturday. He will define the new policy in light of the tasks and nature of the coming phase.

SECURITY OFFICIAL ON EXPLOSIONS IN KHARTOUM

JN251818 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1800 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Text] Khartoum, 25 Nov (SUNA) -- Commenting on explosions heard last night in the outskirts of the capital, a state security official said they were criminal attempts, similar to what happened in the Chadian Embassy a few weeks ago, and they were aimed against some of our vital utilities.

The official added: Some of these explosives were defused. Thank God, there were no losses. The total control of the security organs over the various sites forced the cowardly adventurers to throw their explosives far away from them.

Preliminary investigation and technical tests revealed important information to the security organs. It is hoped that they will soon uncover the elements which perpetrated this criminal scheme.

FROLINAT VIEWS SUPPORT FOR CHADIAN GOVERNMENT

JN251827 Khartoum SUNA in English 1755 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Text] Khartoum, 25 Nov (SUNA) -- Chances for a political solution to the Chadian question are still possible and available in the hand of Chadian themselves and other efforts exerted by friends and brothers would only help, Chadian Front for National Liberation Frolinat Fundamental said in communique published here today.

The communique reaffirmed that Frolinat is ready to boost and aid Goukouni Oueddei for pushing forward peace process in Chad if government committed to Frolinat's peace plan which it declared last October.

The seven-point plan comprised an invitation to a direct dialogue among the partners of the Chadian question whether inside or outside Chad for realising a comprehensive national reconciliation in Chad.

Frolinat's communique demanded amnesty for all Chadians without exception and an immediate halt of military operations to prevent Libyan reintervention.

The pan-African peace keeping force should be speeded up to enter Chad territories particularly the border areas according to the communique which asked for a complete nonalignment of the force.

ETHIOPIA

MINISTER LEAVES FOR 27 NOV TRIPOLI MEETING

LD261902 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Text] Comrade Girma Yilma, minister of information and national guidance and Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia Central Committee member, left Addis Ababa today for Tripoli, leading a three-man delegation to attend a meeting of information ministers of socialist Ethiopia, the PDRY and the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Comrade Girma said on departure that the meeting, which begins tomorrow, will draw a common strategy with which the three countries would jointly counter the propaganda American imperialism is directing against their opposition to imperialism, colonialism and Zionism.

SEYCHELLES

SECURITY FORCES FOIL ATTACK BY MERCENARIES

AB260712 Paris AFP in English 0707 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Excerpt] Victoria, 26 Nov (AFP) -- Seychelles security forces have foiled an attack by mercenaries from South Africa who stormed out of a regular flight by Royal Swazi Airlines late yesterday, the official radio said today.

The Seychelles Government imposed a curfew after the invasion was reported, and today closed the Pointe Larue international airport which the mercenary force reportedly tried to capture yesterday.

Official sources said the Seychelles People's Defense Force [SPDF], which includes the army, militia and police, had contained the attack.

Latest reports said the airport was partly occupied last night, but the situation was under control. The radio continued with its usual programs, interspersed with progress reports, and broadcast an appeal from President Albert Rene for calm.

Malagasy Source Report

AB261800 Paris AFP in English 1744 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Text] Antananarivo, Madagascar, 26 Nov (AFP) -- Fighting between white mercenaries who attempted to topple the Seychelles regime of President Albert Rene and Seychelles defence forces had ceased by early afternoon local time today, a highly-placed Malagasy source said.

The source, speaking after a telephone conversation with Seychelles Foreign Minister Jacques Hodoul, shed further light on yesterday's incidents in which 100 mercenaries, allegedly from South Africa, took over the airport on the main Seychelles island of Mahe.

Quoting Mr Hodoul, the Malagasy source said that some 60 mercenaries arrived at 5:30 pm local time on board a scheduled Royal Air Swazi flight via the Comoros Islands.

They took over all airport facilities, which they kept operating, although they were engaged by Seychelles troops some two hours after landing. Around 10:00 pm an Air India Boeing landed with another 40 mercenaries who had boarded at Salisbury, and the two groups linked up rapidly, Mr Hodoul said.

As the battle turned against the mercenaries during the night they took over the Indian plane again and embarked their dead and wounded -- which reportedly included their leader -- taking the remaining passengers as hostages.

The Boeing then took off for Durban, South Africa, leaving the bulk of the mercenaries still fighting Seychelles troops surrounding them on the airport, the foreign minister said.

Since then most of the mercenaries left had surrendered and the rest were being hunted down.

The fighting had resulted in a number of dead and wounded on both sides, Mr Hodoul added. But it had never spread beyond the airport and no incidents had occured elsewhere.

Mr Hodoul denied rumors that local Seychellois had taken part in the coup attempt. He added that President Rene was due to address the nation later today.

Earlier Malagasy President Didier Ratsiraka sent a message of solidarity to Mr Rene and said his government would always be available to defend the revolutionary achievements of the Seychelles.

Former President's Comment

NC261424 Paris AFP in English 1416 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Text] London, 26 Nov (AFP) -- Former Seychelles President James Mancham said he was asked last night to back the coup attempt which was staged a few hours later at the main airport of the Indian Ocean archipelago.

Mr Mancham, who was toppled in 1977 by President Albert France Rene and now lives in exile here, told an independent London radio station that he had received an anonymous telephone call in the Seychelles Creole vernacular, asking if he would "be prepared to provide support for the movement on the march."

Mr Mancham said, "I have never been interested in power for the sake of power," but he added that "people are praying to be delivered from oppression" in the Seychelles.

"There must be thousands of people in the Seychelles who are waiting for this sort of happening," Mr Mancham added.

Security Forces Communique

AB270905 Paris AFP in English 0852 GMT 27 Nov 81

[Text] Victoria, 27 Nov (AFP) -- Seychellois security forces were today hunting down the stragglers from Wednesday's dramatic but unsuccessful airborne mercenary invasion of the Indian Ocean republic.

The strength of the left-over force was not clear, although 44 of the 100 or so mercenaries involved in the abortive operation were known to have flown back to South Africa yesterday after hijacking an Air India jet. Several others had been killed or captured, according to a communique last night from the Seychelles People's Defense Forces (SPDF) which said the remnants had fled into the hills around the airport.

In its report on the events since a first group of mercenaries briefly seized Pointe Larue international airport after storming out of a chartered Royal Swazi Airlines Boeing, the SPDF communique said the defense forces suffered only a few casualities, including one dead, during the heavy fighting for the airport.

The group, which included two women, left Swaziland pretending to be a party of rugby players, and the flight stopped in Moroni where a similar mercenary operation in 1978 was successful, the communique said.

Those mercenaries who were not killed or captured, or who had not fled back to the safety of South Africa by hijacking an Air India Boeing 707 plane, have fled into the hills around the airport. The defense forces are tracking them down, the communique said.

According to the official version, a group of 45 mercenaries, who flew in from the Swazi capital on Wednesday evening, took some 100 hostages before capturing the airport terminal, control tower and cargo building. The soldiers of fortune subsequently tricked a scheduled Air India flight into landing and some of them forced it to fly to Durban, taking with them their casualties of one dead and two wounded. (South African police arrested the hijackers at Durban and later flew them, in handcuffs, to Waterfloof air base, near Pretoria.

The communique said that the defense forces were analyzing reports that some of the mercenaries were South Africans.

Meanwhile, an official spokesman said that the curfew would have to remain in force while the mopping up continued, although he said he was aware of the discomfort and inconvenience this caused.

He also called on Seychellois to report any suspicious movement by foreigners, and to remain both calm and vigilant. The situation was under control, he said. (The Seychelles, a group of more than 90 islands with some 60,000 inhabitants, relies heavily on tourism for its foreign exchange earnings.)

The communique said that security forces knew a handful of local people were involved in the operation, describing them as some of the greedy people who should have chosen to leave the country instead of living in dreams of reaping the rewards of the efforts of others. They would be picked up and dealt with accordingly, it warned.

A defense spokesman described the invasion as justification of several official warnings since President France Albert Rene seized power in 1977 of the need for vigilance against such an attack. (In London yesterday the man Mr Rene overthrew, ex-President James Mancham, said that he had been asked to back the attempted coup.)

DPRK Troops 'Helped'

AB270945 Paris AFP in English 0938 GMT 27 Nov 81

[Text] Johannesburg, 27 Nov (AFP) -- North Korean troops helped break Wednesday's mercenary invasion of the Seychelles, the daily THE CITIZEN reported today quoting a former Rhodesian Army officer.

Ex-Officer David Conradie, now holidaying in the Indian Ocean islands, told the newspaper by telephone that he had witnessed part of the action at the Pointe Larue international airport on Mahe, chief island in the archipelago.

At first government troops moved in machineguns and began to fire on the section occupied by the mercenaries, THE CITIZEN reported. "Then the North Korean troops (the North Koreans have been training the local army for several months) arrived at the airport. about a dozen, under cover, raced up to the part of the building where the mercenaries were, smashed the windows and apparently must have shot the mercenaries dead because about five minutes later the firing stopped."

Mr Conradie said that at this point a police patrol told him to move away.

CHAD

GOUKOUNI EXPECTS 'NOTHING' FROM NAIROBI SUMMIT

AB261942 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei's interview on 26 November at Kinshasa's Njili airport during his stopover on his way to Nairobi summit -- recorded]

[Text] [Goukouni Oueddei] As we have often stated on the situation in eastern Chad, when the Chadian Government decided to ask Libya to withdraw its troops from Chad beginning 31 December, we were short-circuited by our Libyan friends. As a result, after their unilateral withdrawal from the eastern part of the country, our enemies, who are, of course, supported by their reactionary allies, progressed inside the country, in particular in the east, to establish themselves there and certainly attempt to enter negotiations with our government from a position of strength. When we were informed of this, we immediately dispatched troops to the region and now we believe that whatever the situation in the field, it will become normal again because we know the determination of our young troops in units being established. We also know the masses of our population are determined to support us and we count on the unfailable support of our African friends. We believe that the few skirmishes in the east will not continue for long.

[Question] Does this mean that you expect much from the Nairobi summit since you are going to attend it?

[Answer] No. I am expecting nothing from Nairobi. I am going there to attend a summit which will be attended by all [as heard] African countries. Since the summit will discuss an issue concerning my country above all, I am obliged to be present in order not to annoy my fellow heads of state. Otherwise, I am not expecting anything from the OAU. As you are aware, the organization has been dodging the issue of sending troops to Chad since 1979 and though the Libyans completed their withdrawal from the country about 1 month ago, we are left alone with the Zairian troops, just as we were with the Congolese troops, who were stationed here without support from the other countries concerned. We are henceforth determined and our watch word inside the country is first of all to count on our own troops.

GOVERNMENT FORCES TO STEP UP FIGHT AGAINST FAN

AB261812 Paris AFP in English 1751 GMT 26 Nov 81

[By Jean-Paul Rodrigue]

[Text] Ndjamena, 26 Nov -- The pro-government politico-military factions in Chad seemed today to be preparing to step up their struggle against the forces of rebel leader Hissein Habre, who have been advancing in the east of the country following the Libyan military withdrawal.

Foreign Minister Acyl Ahmat, leader of the pro-Libyan Democratic Revolutionary Council (CDR), is currently in the east to give his combatants moral support, a source close to his forces said.

Mr Acyl's men have provided the major opposition to the FAN since the Libyan withdrawal from the region.

In addition to 1,000 men of the Chadian Integrated National Army (ANI) dispatched to the region as reinforcements, three companies (about 700 men) of the Chadian Armed Forces (FAT) loyal to Vice President Abdel Kader Kamougue were ready to leave for the east, a source close to Colonel Kamougue said.

The determination expressed by leaders of the government of President Goukouni Oueddei to combat Mr Habre's forces militarily seems to reflect their scepticism over the role of the inter-African peacekeeping forces.

Only the forces' Zairian contingent is on the scene, receiving daily shipments of troop transports, ammunitions and supplies from Zaire, while the arrival of Nigerian and Senegalese soldiers is being postponed from day to day.

President Goukouni himself, who is in Nairobi for a summit of states who have promised to send troops, is generally seen here as having gone there in order to comfort them with their commitments.

The Chadian Government seems worried at hints that the peacekeeping force would not be used to oppose the rebels.

This fear as confirmed yesterday by the OAU secretary general's special representative here, Gebre Egziaber Dawit, who said under no circumstances would it enter into combat against Mr Habre's Armed Forces of the North (FAN).

The threat posed to several towns in the east of the country by Mr Habre's men is taken seriously here, although officially the government claims it maintains control of the important town of Abeche.

Abeche came under intense fire last week, according to residents who fled the town, since then, Bilitine, to the north, has come under attack, Chadian military sources concede.

Mr Habre's FAN have said they have taken control of several other towns in eastern Chad as well since the Libyan withdrawal.

ZAIRIAN TROOPS RECEIVE EQUIPMENT, FOODSTUFF

AB251221 Paris AFP in French 1129 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Text] Ndjamena, 25 Nov (AFP) -- On Tuesday and Wednesday, Zairian Air Force, C-130 Hercules dispatched troop carriers, various equipment and foodstuffs to the Ndjamena airport for use by the Zairian contingent sent to Chad within the framework of the inter-African peacekeeping force.

On Wednesday morning, Zairian paratroopers belonging to the 34th Brigade -- 700 whom are are now stationed in Ndjamena -- took over several troop carriers and a repair service truck which had just been unloaded from two C-130's. The Zairian contingent, which arrived in Ndjamena on 15 and 16 November, is stationed at camp 13 in the center of the Chadian capital. According to a senior Zairian officer, its financing is ensured by Zaire for 1 month, after which the OAU will have to take over.

Besides this, three Antonov-12's of the Algerian Air Force have, since the beginning of this week, been making round trips between Algeria and Chad within the context of the logistic aid the Algerian authorities have decided to give the Integrated National Army of Chad (ANI).

These three planes, which arrived at Ndjamena's civilian airport on Tuesday afternoon, are expected to leave on Wednesday after unloading -- among other things -- engineering equipment and battle dress, it is learned from reliable sources. Last Friday, two Algerian Fokker-27 planes dispatched drugs meant for the ANI to Ndjamena. The crew of the two Fokker planes remained in Ndjamena to train Chadian pilots.

INTERNATIONAL POSTAL OPERATIONS RESUMED

AB251227 Paris AFP in French 1131 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Text] Ndjamena, 25 Nov (AFP) -- Postal operations between Chad and the rest of the world resumed on a small scale a few days ago, official sources stated in Ndjamena today.

Postal facilities are centralized in a single office and regular distribution has not yet begun. This resumption was made possible by the weekly flight of Air Afrique, which links Paris with Brazzaville via Ndjamena and Bangui on Mondays and returns on Tuesdays.

CONGO

SASSOU-NGUESSO RECEIVES GABON'S FOREIGN MINISTER

AB220830 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 21 Nov 81

[Excerpts] Gabonese Minister of Foreign Affairs Martin Bongo was received this morning by the president. He was the bearer of a message fro the Gabonese president to his Congolese counterpart.

[Begin recording] [Question] Concerning Chad, Gabon preferred sending financial and logistic assistance to sending troops. Why?

[Answer] Well, Gabon remembers the experience of Congo which had already sent soldiers in this same context. We don't think sending troops will solve the problem. As you know, right now Hissein Habre's troops are fighting agains the others. Will these OAU troops fight against those of Hissein Habre or what will be their exact role? I think it is because of this that we thought it better not to send troops even though they would not have been many. But we thought of giving other forms of assistance still within the framework of the OAU that will help in the training of the Integrated Army and the reconstruction of Chad.

[Question] Do you think the inter-African force can solve the Chadian conflict?

[Answer] Well, we are going to see [word indistinct] find a solution. [end recording]

GABON

PRC VICE FOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES 23 NOV

AB231919 Libreville Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 23 Nov 81

[Text] The visit to Gabon of the Chinese vice foreign minister ended today. Gong Dafei left Libreville this morning for the People's Republic of Sao Tome and Principe. It must be stressed that his visit to our country helped to strengthen Chinese-Gabonese cooperation. Two agreements were signed by the Gabonese and Chinese sides to mark the end of the visit of the PRC vice foreign minister to Gabon. During his visit to Gabon. Gong Dafei was received in audience by the president and head of state, His Excellency El Hadj Omar Bongo. He also held several talks with members of the Gabonese Cabinet. The [?explanation] by the Gabonese Government was that the Chinese vice foreign minister was on an official visit to our country.

During the audience granted him at the Renovation Palace, Gong Dafei invited the president to pay an official visit to Beijing. The invitation was accepted. It will be recalled that Gabon and the PRC are bound by two agreements of economic and trade cooperation signed in October 1974 in Beijing during one of the visits by President Bongo to the PRC.

ZAIRE

PRC VICE FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES 26 NOV

AB270738 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 27 Nov 81

[Text] The Chinese vice minister of foreign affairs and former ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Zaire, Gong Dafei, arrived in Kinshasa yesterday. He and the Zairian authorities will discuss relations between China and Zaire as well as current African and world problems.

MOBUTU ENVOY DEPARTS FOR BURUNDI, RWANDA

AB251338 Paris AFP in French 1146 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Text] Kinshasa, 25 Nov (AFP) -- Idzumbuir Bolumba Asal, Zairian state commissioner without porfolio, left Kinshasa on Tuesday for Bujumbura and Kigali with messages from President Mobutu Sese Seko to Presidents Jean-Baptiste Bagaze of Burundi and Juvenal Habyarimana of Rwanda. Although the contents of the messages were not released by the Zairian special envoy, it is believed that they deal with the issues of cooperation and that they are related to the upcoming summit of the Economic Community of the Countries of the Great Lakes [CEPGL] --Burundi, Rwanda and Zaire. The summit is scheduled to take place later this year or early next year in Gisenyi, Rwanda.

COMMENTARY ON PACE OF CHAD FORCE PREPARATIONS

AB261235 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1130 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Twenty-four hours from the opening of the Nairobi summit, it is still not known when the inter-African neutral force will become truly operational. But before discussing this vital question, it should be asked when the different African contingents will arrive in Ndjamena. Zairian troops are the only contingent currently in Ndjamena; in spite of promises and commitments, no other arrival has been noted in Chad. Therefore, it is evident that the waiting will be long.

However, OAU Secretary General Edem Kodjo stated on Tuesday that this force will be in place before the end of this week. It is probable that Edem Kodjo's deadline is too short. Whatever the case, one thing is certain: Nigeria, which should send about 2,000 men to Chad, will not send its troops until after tomorrow's summit in Nairobi. But things will have to move very fast after tomorrow's meeting. In 24 hours the Senegalese contingent should arrive in Ndjamena. Dakar is sending 650 troops, and they will join their Zairian counterparts who arrived in Ndjamena almost 2 weeks ago. The arrival of the Senegalese in Ndjamena will have a positive effect. The other countries will follow their example. Slowly the OAU machine will start to work and we will see more clearly as of tomorrow [words indistinct].

Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei was expected in Nairobi this morning to participate in this summit. He should be accompanied by the Zairian delegation led by Nsinga Udjuu Untube, the first state commissioner. Senegalese Foreign Minister Moustapha Niasse is leading his country's delegation, while delegations from Benin and Togo are also expected in Nairobi this morning. There will be a major absentee at the Nairobi meeting on Chad, that is, President Mobutu Sese Seko, founding chairman of the MPR and president of the republic, who will be represented by the first state commissioner who left Kinshasa this morning for Nairobi.

One important question will be examined at the Nairobi meeting: What will be the role of the inter-African neutral force? Another problem to be examined is the financing of the force. France, Great Britain, the United States and the FRG have promised to give assistance, but the amount promised is not sufficient. Extra assistance has to be sought for from the United Nations.

BENIN

KEREKOU SENDS MESSAGE TO SEYCHELLES PRESIDENT

AB262212 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Text] Following the cowardly aggression perpetrated against the Republic of Seychelles, our great comrade in arms President Mathieu Kerekou has just sent a message to his brother and friend, the Seychellois President France Albert Rene.

Text of the message: Mr President and brother, we have just learned with great indignation the news of the barbaric and cowardly aggression perpetrated against your dear and beautiful country, the Republic of Seychelles, by a group of (?vile) mercenaries in the pay of international imperialism. On behalf of the whole Beninese people, their vanguard party -- the People's Revolutionary Party of Benin [PRPB] -- the National Executive Council and on our own behalf, we congratulate you for the resounding victory which the Seychelles people, by their [words indistinct] has just won over the mercenaries manipulated by the power of money. This victory once again proves that a mobilized and organized people can defeat the most militarily powerful nation of the world. While reiterating our great admiration, we would like to assure you, Mr President and dear brother, the unflinching support of the militant Beninese people to the brotherly people of the Seychelles.

With highest considerations,

signed: Mathieu Kerekou, president of the Central Committee of the PRPB, president of the republic, head of state and president of the National Executive Council.

GUINEA-BISSAU

PRESIDENT SET TO VISIT USSR, DPRK, GDR

AB251635 Paris AFP in French 1435 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Text] Bissau, 25 Nov (AFP) -- Gen Joao Bernardo Vieira, president of Guinea-Bissau's Revolutionary Council, Friday will begin official visits to the USSR, DPRK and GDR, informed sources in Bissau announced. These visits are the first to these countries by the Guinea-Bissau head of state since the Revolutionary Council took over in Bissau on 14 November 1980. The trips were planned before the 8-14 November 1981 extraordinary session of the African Party for the Independence of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde, which elected General Vieira secretary general. The visits have a special significance because the congress adopted a resolution calling for strengthening relations of friendship and cooperation with the socialist camp, which had helped the PAIGC in its liberation struggle.

LIBERIA

HEAD OF STATE APPOINTS NEW FOREIGN MINISTER

AB261619 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1600 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Excerpt] Liberia has a new foreign minister. He is Dr H. Boimah Fahnbulleh, Jr., the former minister of education. Dr George Boley, former minister of posts and telecommunications, replaces Dr Fahnbulleh as minister of education, while Dr (Abdulade Vandy) becomes the new minister of posts and telecommunications. The appointments were made today by the head of state, Commander in Chief Samuel K. Doe, with the advice and consent of the People's Redemption Council [PRC]. In separate letters to the newly appointed ministers, head of state Doe hoped they would justify the confidence reposed in them by the PRC. He further hoped that they would be motivated in all their endeavors to defend the interest of the Liberian people.

MADAGASCAR

RATSIRAKA SENDS SUPPORT MESSAGE TO SEYCHELLES

AB270920 Paris AFP in French 1322 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Text] Antananarivo, 26 Nov (AFP) -- Malagasy President Didier Ratsiraka today sent a message to France Albert Rene, his Seychelles counterpart, expressing his solidarity and support following the attempted coup at the Victoria airport by a group of mercenaries.

In its noon news bulletin, Radio Madagascar, which carried President Ratisiraka's message, added that he told President Rene: "We have learned of the aggression perpetrated by mercenaries against the Republic of Seychelles and we are indignant. We express our solidarity and stand ready to defend the revolutionary achievements of the brotherly people of Seychelles."

SOUTH AFRICA

GOVERNMENT ASKS SEYCHELLES FOR INFORMATION

LD261312 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Text] The South African Government has asked the Government of the Seychelles to furnish it with any information at its disposal regarding the events which led up to the hijacking of the Air India airliner. A brief statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Pretoria said the South African Government would appreciate any information in order to facilitate the investigation by the South African police. The South African minister of transport, Mr Hendrick Schoeman, said earlier that if South Africans had been involved in the hijacking, they would be dealt with by the police according to the strict law relating to hijackers.

Arrests Made: U.S. Blamed

AB261500 Paris AFP in English 1450 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Text] Johannesburg, 26 Nov (AFP) -- South African police today arrested 44 men who had hijacked an Indian airliner in the Seychelles and flown it to Durban after an unsuccessful attempt to topple the government of the Indian Ocean archipelago.

The 44 were flown in handcuffs aboard a South African military transport to the Waterloof air base near Pretoria, official sources said. Earlier reports said that only six men had been involved in the hijack, of whom one had been shot dead and one wounded.

The South African press agency SAPA said the 44 were all white and aged between 20 and 30, except for one man who appeared to be considerably older.

The Johannesburg evening newspaper THE STAR said members of the group had been recruited in Johannesburg several weeks ago, with money supplied from America.

The Air India Boeing with 65 passengers aboard was seized during a stopover on Mahe Island in the Seychelles on a flight from Salisbury to Bombay, apparently because the hijackers, who had landed earlier at Pointe Larue airport, realised their coup attempt would not succeed. The planes ordinary passengers were released inharmed after it landed at Durban.

THE STAR reported that the mercenaries were former members of the elite units of the old Rhodesian Army, notably the Selous Scouts, Rhodesian Light Infantry and Special Air Services, and of the South African Reconnaissance Regiment.

The newspaper said that Mike Hoare, a former mercenary in the Congo, had recruited the men, who received 1,000 rands (almost 1,000 dollars) immediately, with the promise of ten times this sum if the operation succeeded.

THE STAR also reported that according to an informant in Johannesburg who said he had turned down the offer, "The Americans were behind the coup attempt."

The South African Foreign Ministry said the 65 passengers and 14 crew of the Air India Boeing would be continuing their flight to Bombay via Johannesburg later today. The Boeing itself was said to have been slightly damaged by gunfire as it left the Seychelles.

ZIMBABWE

GOVERNMENT TO INVESTIGATE AIR INDIA HIJACKING

AB261044 Paris AFP in English 2033 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Text] Salisbury, 26 Nov (AFP) -- The Zimbabwe Government has set up a coordinating center to handle inquiries about the hijacking during a mercenary operation in the Seychelles of an Air India flight from Salisbury to Bombay.

Officials said the government's primary interest is the 65 passengers on board the Boeing 707 when it left Salisbury at 4 p.m. (1400 GMT) yesterday.

Foreign Affairs Official Charles Allen, who is running the center, said that many of the passengers were believed to be Zimbabwean nationals. Air India has promised to release a passenger list later in the day.

Mr Allen discounted reports that the coordinating center would also act as a link between the Seychelles and South Africa, where the hijackers were detained earlier today at Durban airport. Neither of these governments had contacted Zimbabwe, he said.

The plane was on a scheduled flight from Salisbury to Bombay when it (?was hijacked) by men reported to have taken part in an unsuccessful mercenary operation at the international airport on the island of Mahe.